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ELEKTRA MEGAZINE
RE-PRESENTING
THE ELEKTRA SAGA
PART TWO OF TWO
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STAN LEE PRESENTS

ELEKTRA

THE ELEKTRA SAGA

- PART II -

by
FRANK MILLER
with
KLAUS JANSON

Elektra Natchios was once Matt Murdock's first love. Then, her father was killed and something went cold inside her. She studied the deadly arts of ninjitsu under the Asian order of the Hand. Then, she betrayed them--and is now their prey. Elektra has become an assasin-for-hire in New York City, and this has brought her into conflict with her former lover Matt Murdock, a.k.a.--Daredevil, Man Without Fear. Will she have the strength to slay him should their paths cross--or will the Hand at last succeed in killing Elektra before that fateful encounter? The answers await...

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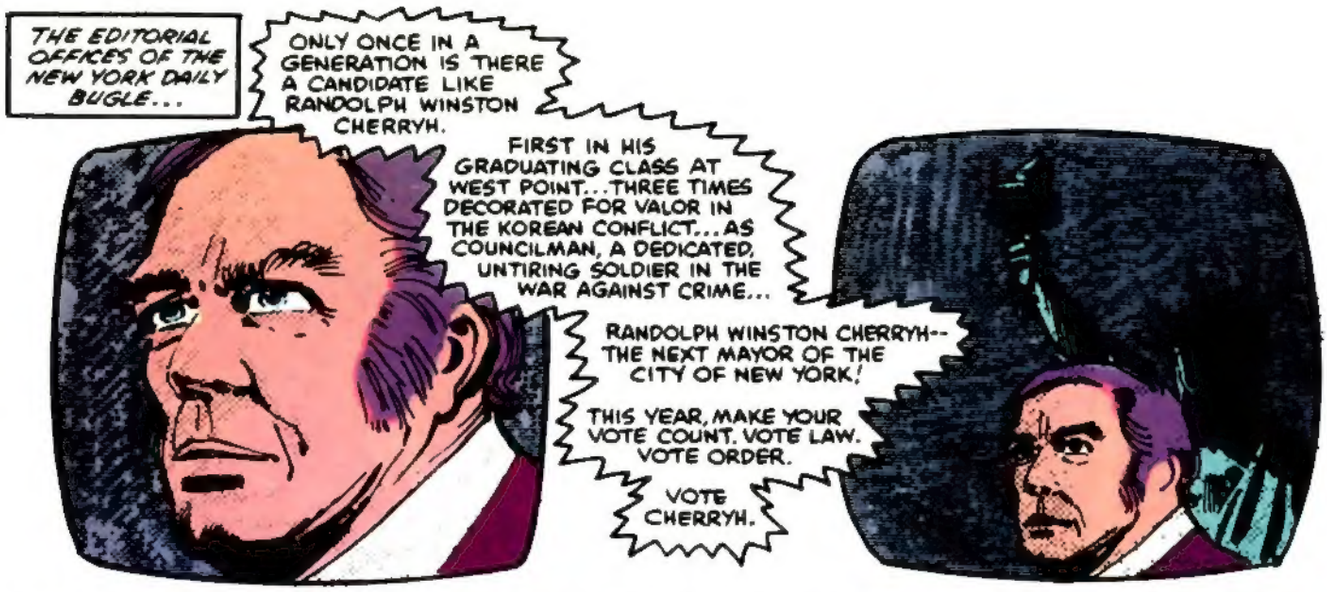
THE EDITORIAL OFFICES OF THE NEW YORK DAILY BUGLE...
ONLY ONCE IN A GENERATION IS THERE A CANDIDATE LIKE RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH.
FIRST IN HIS GRADUATING CLASS AT WEST POINT...THREE TIMES DECORATED FOR VALOR IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT...AS COUNCILMAN, A DEDICATED, UNTIRING SOLDIER IN THE WAR AGAINST CRIME...
RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH--THE NEXT MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK!
THIS YEAR, MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT. VOTE LAW. VOTE ORDER.
VOTE CHERRYH.

THIS HAS BEEN A PAID POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT--
KLIK
J. JONAH JAMESON PUBLISHER
ROBBIE SAID YOU WANT TO SEE ME, MISTER JAMESON.
ANYTHING WRONG?

YEAH.
I JUST READ THE PROOF OF YOUR PIECE ON RANDOLPH CHERRYH. IT'S GOOD, BEN. IT'S REAL GOOD.
IN FACT, IT'S DYNAMITE--
--THE KIND THAT'LL BLOW UP RIGHT IN YOUR FACE.
YOU'VE CONNECTED ORGANIZED CRIME WITH EVERY MAJOR DECISION CHERRYH HAS MADE AS COUNCILMAN. THIS COULD COST HIM THE ELECTION--
--OR, IT COULD COST US THE BUGLE, IF HE SUES.
HE'S A POPULAR MAN, BEN. GOT A LOT OF MONEY BEHIND HIM.

YOU WANT IT KILLED?

NO. JUST MAKE SURE OF YOUR FACTS.
VERY SURE.

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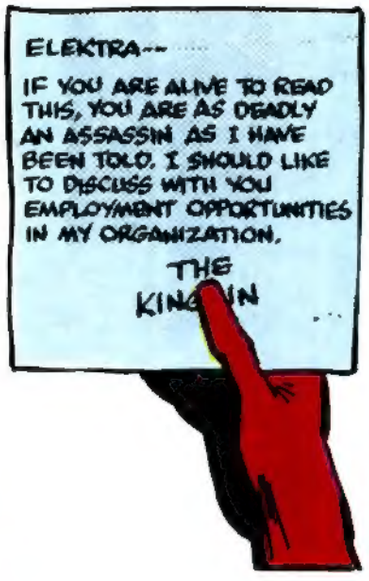
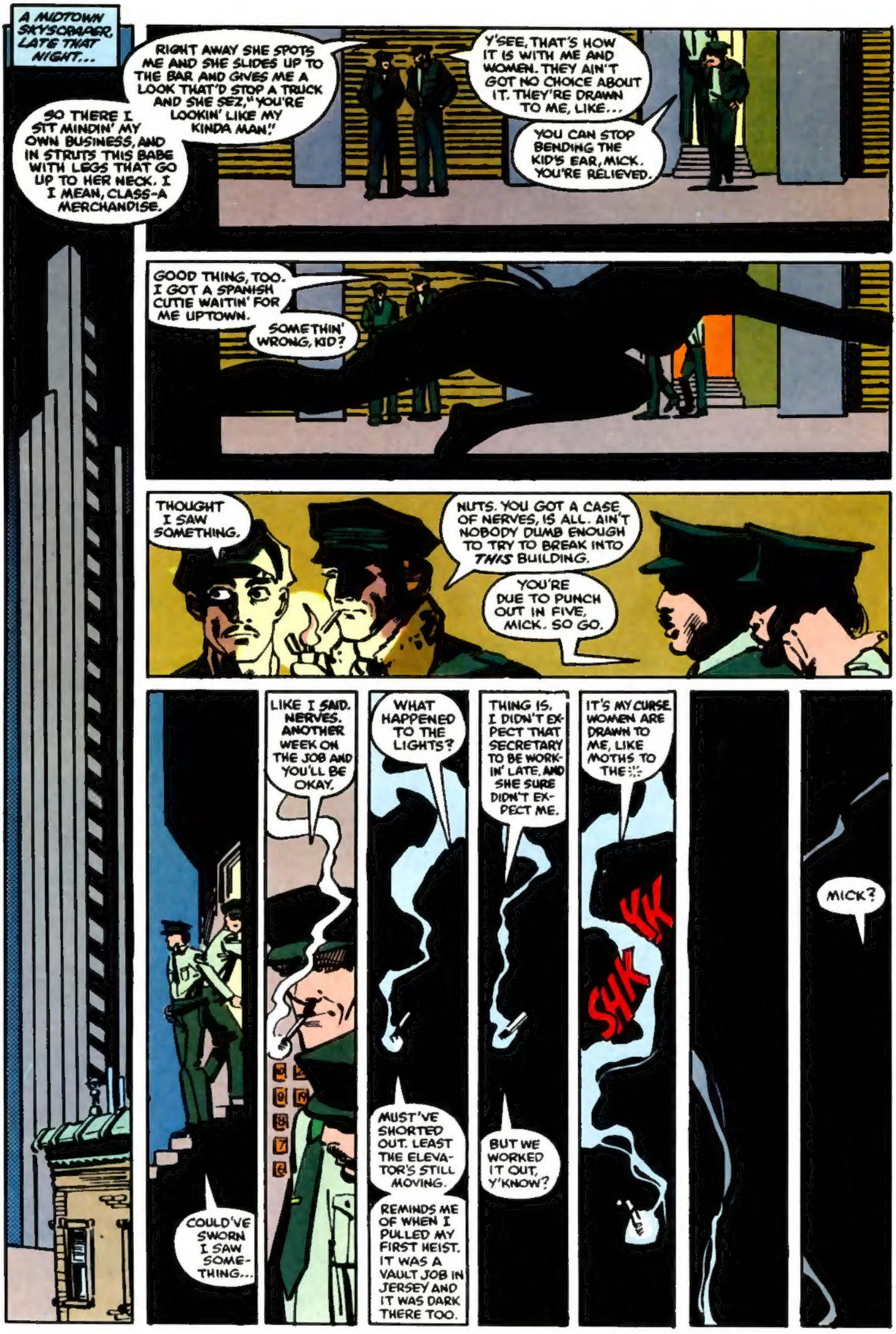
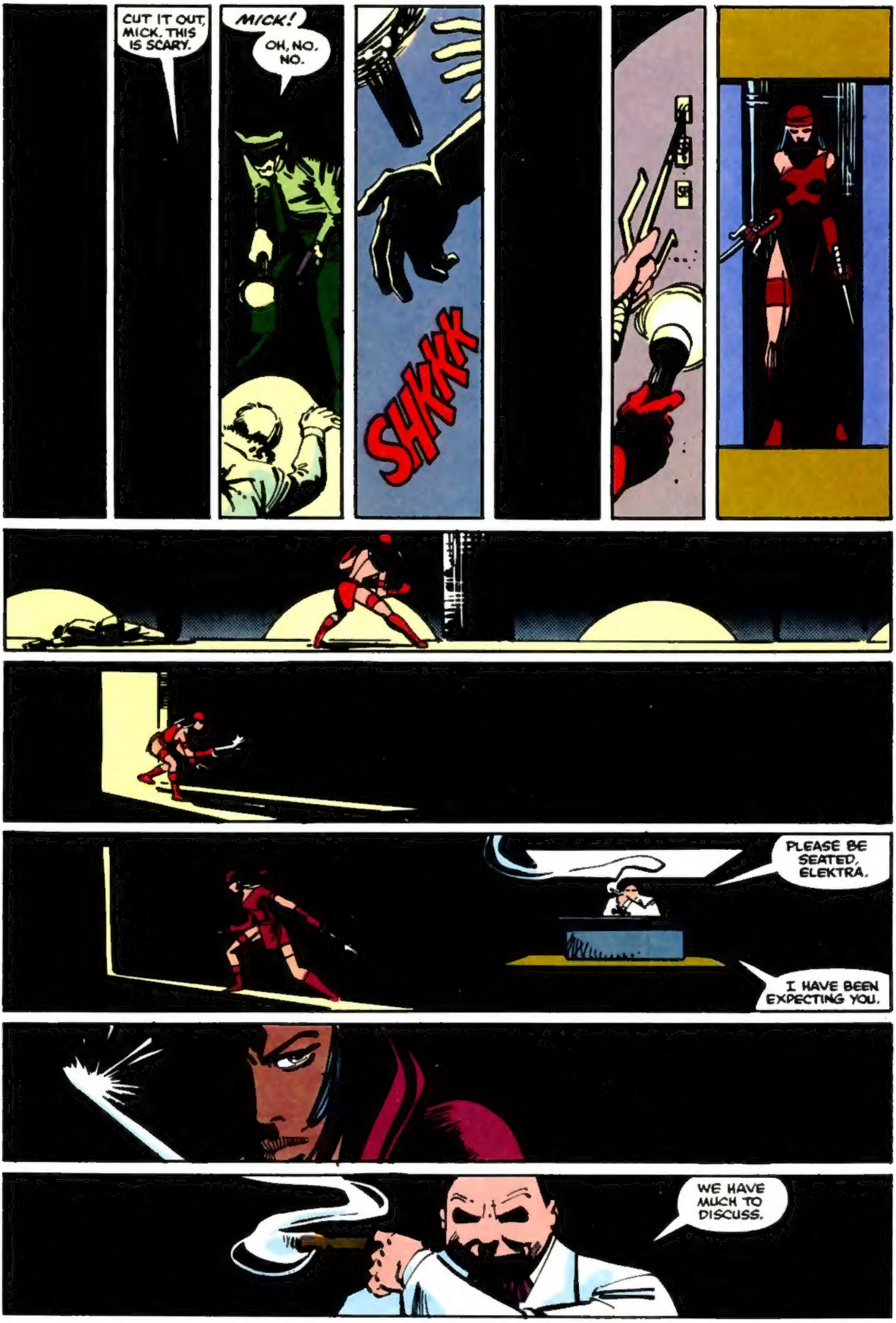
SHE HATES THIS CITY. SHE HATES TO BREATHE AIR THAT HE HAS BREATHED, TO FEEL A FLOOR BENEATH HER FEET AND KNOW THAT IT IS PART OF AN ARCHITECTURAL MAZE THAT CONNECTS HER TO HIM--
--HER LOVER TURNED ENEMY, THE MAN CALLED DAREDEVIL.
BUT SHE IS ELEKTRA -- MISTRESS OF THE DEADLY ART OF NINJUTSU. SHE WILL NOT BEND TO THAT HATE. SHE WILL NOT LEAVE--UNTIL SHE IS CERTAIN THAT HER WORK HERE IS FINISHED.
SNIK
KRECHHH
SNIKK

WHOK
SHKKK
KTANNG
CHOK
KLUDD
SHKKK

SHKK
SHKK
KRUSSHH
AAAAAA


ELEKTRA--
IF YOU ARE ALIVE TO READ THIS, YOU ARE AS DEADLY AN ASSASSIN AS I HAVE BEEN TOLD. I SHOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN MY ORGANIZATION.
THE KINGPIN


A MIDTOWN SKYSCRAPER, LATE THAT NIGHT...
SO THERE I SIT MINDIN' MY OWN BUSINESS, AND IN STRUTS THIS BABE WITH LEGS THAT GO UP TO HER NECK. I I MEAN, CLASS-A MERCHANDISE.
RIGHT AWAY SHE SPOTS ME AND SHE SLIDES UP TO THE BAR AND GIVES ME A LOOK THAT'D STOP A TRUCK AND SHE SEZ, "YOU'RE LOOKIN' LIKE MY KINDA MAN!"
Y'SEE, THAT'S HOW IT IS WITH ME AND WOMEN. THEY AIN'T GOT NO CHOICE ABOUT IT. THEY'RE DRAWN TO ME, LIKE...
YOU CAN STOP BENDING THE KID'S EAR, MICK. YOU'RE RELIEVED.
GOOD THING, TOO. I GOT A SPANISH CUTIE WAITIN' FOR ME UPTOWN.
SOMETHIN' WRONG, KID?
THOUGHT I SAW SOMETHING.
NUTS. YOU GOT A CASE OF NERVES, IS ALL. AIN'T NOBODY DUMB ENOUGH TO TRY TO BREAK INTO THIS BUILDING.
YOU'RE DUE TO PUNCH OUT IN FIVE, MICK. SO GO.
COULD'VE SWORN I SAW SOME-THING...
LIKE I SAID. NERVES. ANOTHER WEEK ON THE JOB AND YOU'LL BE OKAY.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LIGHTS?
MUST'VE SHORTED OUT. LEAST THE ELEVA-TOR'S STILL MOVING.
REMINDS ME OF WHEN I PULLED MY FIRST HEIST. IT WAS A VAULT JOB IN JERSEY AND IT WAS DARK THERE TOO.
THING IS. I DIDN'T EX-PECT THAT SECRETARY TO BE WORK-IN' LATE. AND SHE SURE DIDN'T EX-PECT ME.
BUT WE WORKED IT OUT, Y'KNOW?
IT'S MY CURSE. WOMEN ARE DRAWN TO ME, LIKE MOTHS TO THE...
SHK
KK
MICK?


CUT IT OUT, MICK. THIS IS SCARY.
MICK!
OH, NO. NO.
SHKKK
PLEASE BE SEATED, ELEKTRA.
I HAVE BEEN EXPECTING YOU.
WE HAVE MUCH TO DISCUSS.

IN RYKER'S ISLAND PENITENTIARY, THE **KILLER** WAITS.

HE WAITS AND WORKS OUT AND THINKS OF WHEN HE WILL BE **FREE**-- FREE TO ONCE AGAIN DO THE ONLY THING THAT **MATTERS**, THE ONLY THING THAT GIVES HIM MEANING...

NO, THERE'S NO MEANING IN IT. BUT THERE IS **SATISFACTION**.

OH, YES...

THEY CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT, THE OTHER PEOPLE... THE **SILHOUETTES** THAT HE'S HEARD AND WATCHED LIKE AN OLD BAD MOVIE SINCE CHILDHOOD.

HE KNOWS THEY'RE WATCHING HIM, TOO. THEY ALWAYS ARE, ALL FASCINATED AND HORRIFIED AND CARING AND CONCERNED AND SO VERY, VERY **STUPID** TO HIM. TO WHAT HE IS.

NO, THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL. IF THEY DID, THEY'D KILL HIM FOR SURE.

BUT THEY DON'T. THEY JUST KEEP TALKING...

BENJAMIN, YOU'VE GOT A VISITOR.

HE'S TOM SNYDE-- THE TV HOST.

MR. SNYDE?

I WON'T BEAT AROUND THE BUSH, MR. PONDEXTER. I'VE GOTTEN PERMISSION FROM YOUR WARDEN TO INTERVIEW YOU ON NATIONAL TELEVISION--

--AND LET ME SAY I'D BE JUST TICKLED PINK TO...

GET LOST.

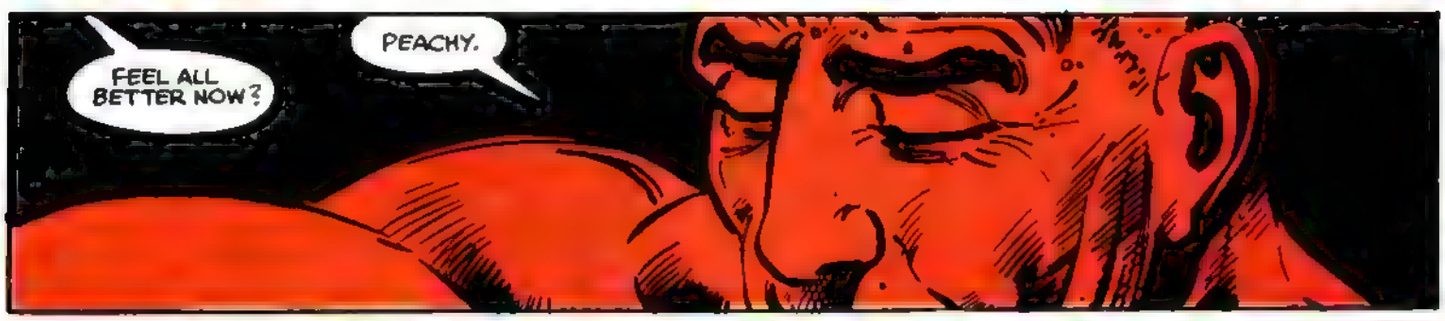
BENJAMIN, IT WOULD BE EXCELLENT THERAPY FOR YOU TO OPEN UP TO...

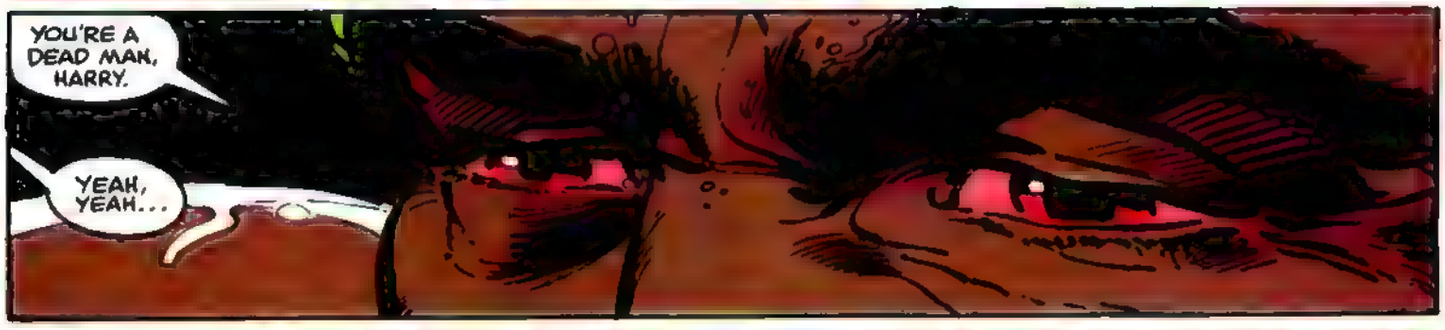
I'M NOT INTERESTED. I...

...I...

ARRGHH

GUARD! GUARD! HE'S HAVING ONE OF HIS HEADACHES!
YEAH, YEAH.
PUT THE CUFFS ON, BULLS.
THEY'RE ON. THEY'RE ON. HURRY.
IT HURTS--
YEAH, YEAH.
SORTA FUNNY, ISN'T IT? MISTER HIGH-AND-MIGHTY-MASTER-ASSASSIN... CRYIN' LIKE A BABY.
MAYBE THEY FIXED THAT BRAIN TUMOR OF YOURS BUT YOU STILL GET HEADACHES--
--WHICH MEANS YOU NEED THESE PILLS. AND OLD HARRY'S THE GUY WHAT'S GOT 'EM.
LESSEE... PUSH THE CAP DOWN, TURN COUNTER-CLOCKWISE...
NO, CLOCKWISE...
THE PILL... GIVE ME...
YEAH, YEAH...


FEEL ALL BETTER NOW?
PEACHY.


YOU'RE A DEAD MAN, HARRY.
YEAH, YEAH...

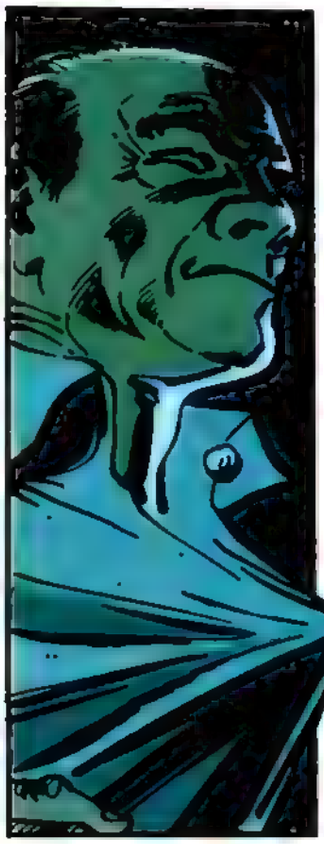
THE KILLER WAITS...

NO SMOKIN!
A TIMES SQUARE MOVIE THEATRE...
IN THIS DIVE?
OKAY, OKAY...

YER LATE. MISSED THE BEST PART. THINGS JUST BLOWED UP REAL GOOD.
YOU BROUGHT THE MONEY?
I BROUGHT IT. TWO BILLS.
EXIT

BUT FIRST -- WE TALK.
SURE, SURE. JUST HOPE YA 'PRECIATE THE CHANCE I'M TAKIN'. IF THE FAT MAN KNEW I WUZ HERE--
--I'D BE COLD MEAT.

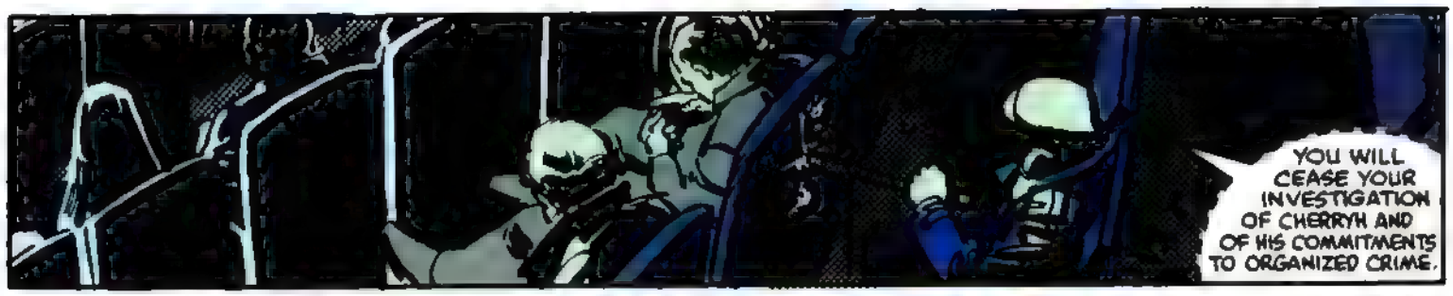
THE MOB'S GOT MUCHO DINERO INVESTED IN THAT CHERRYH GUY. BIG BUCKS. AND THEY--
OW.



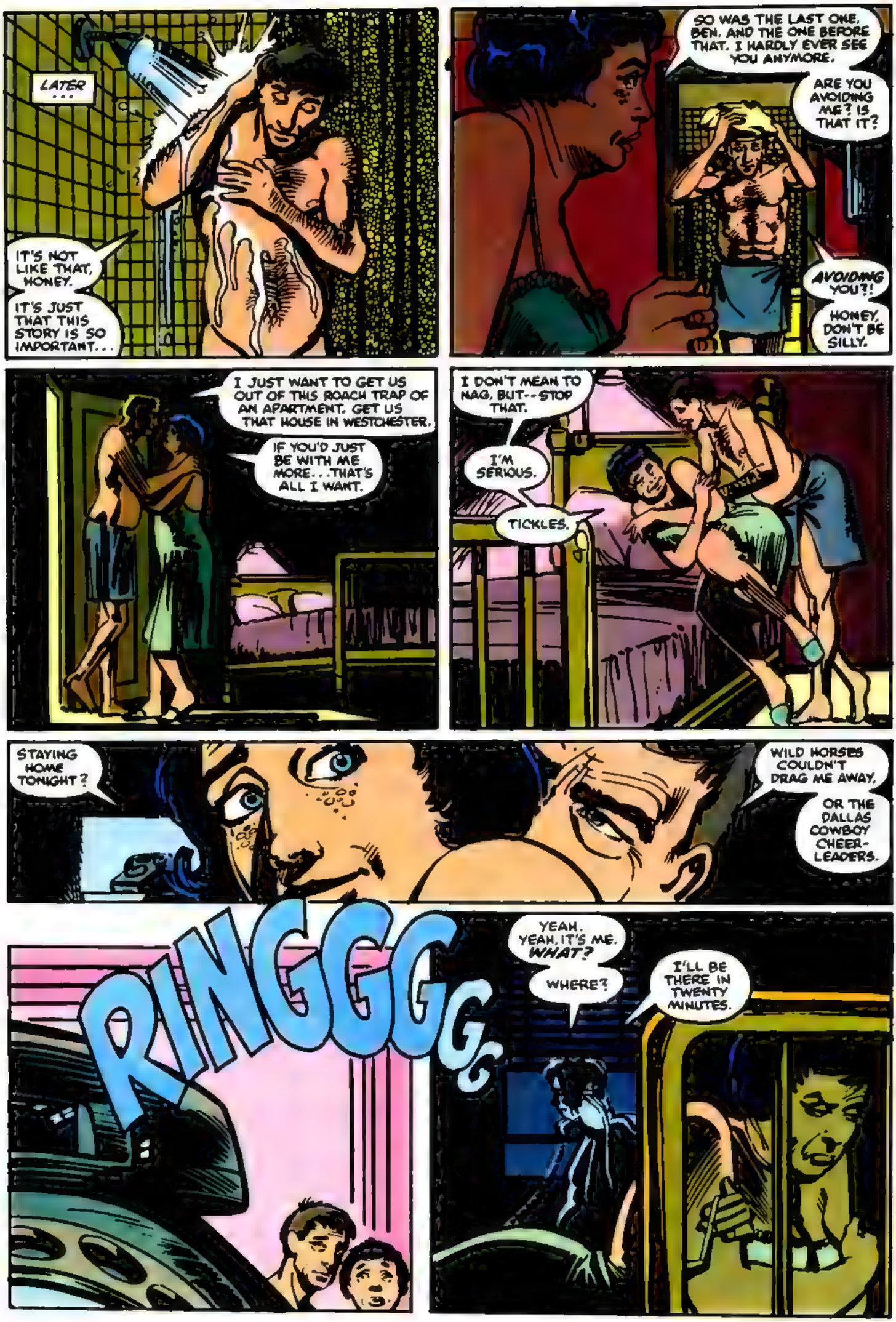
YOUR FRIEND IS DEAD, MR. URICH.

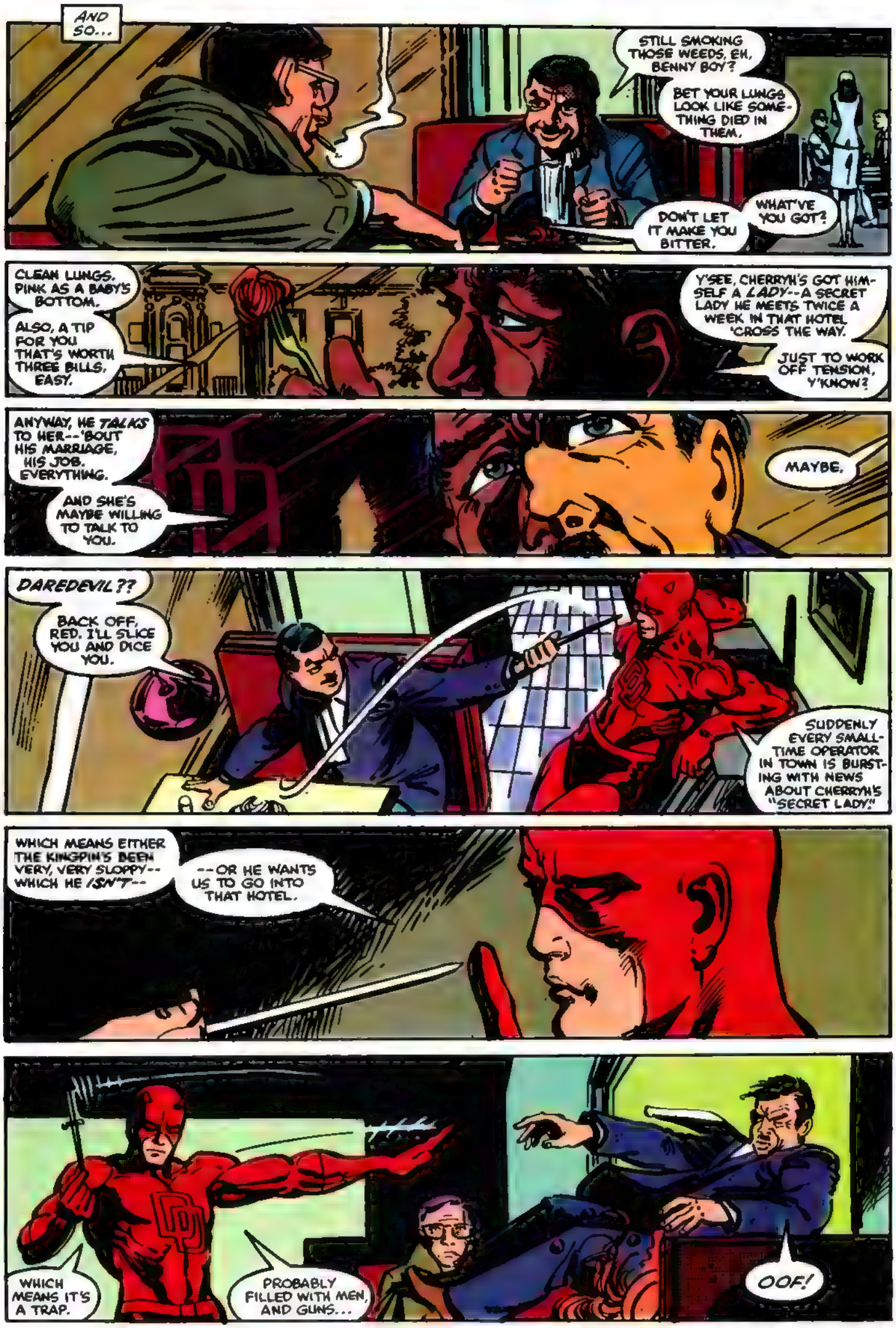
MOVE, OR SPEAK--
--AND YOU WILL JOIN HIM.

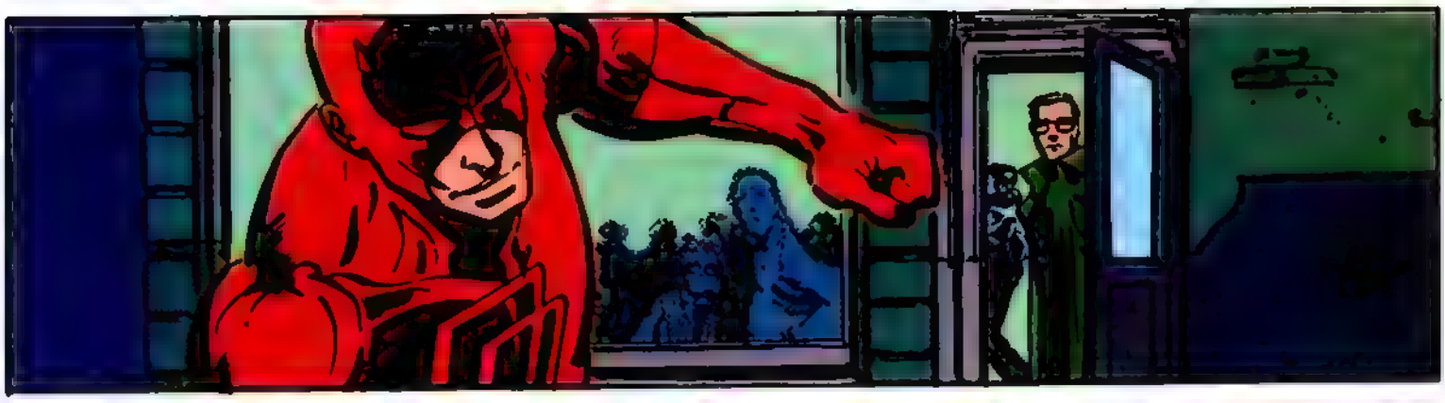
IN SEVERAL WEEKS, THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK CITY WILL ELECT A NEW MAYOR.
HE WILL BE RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH, AND AS MAYOR, HE WILL SERVE THE INTERESTS OF MY EMPLOYER.
YOU WILL DO NOTHING TO STOP THIS.

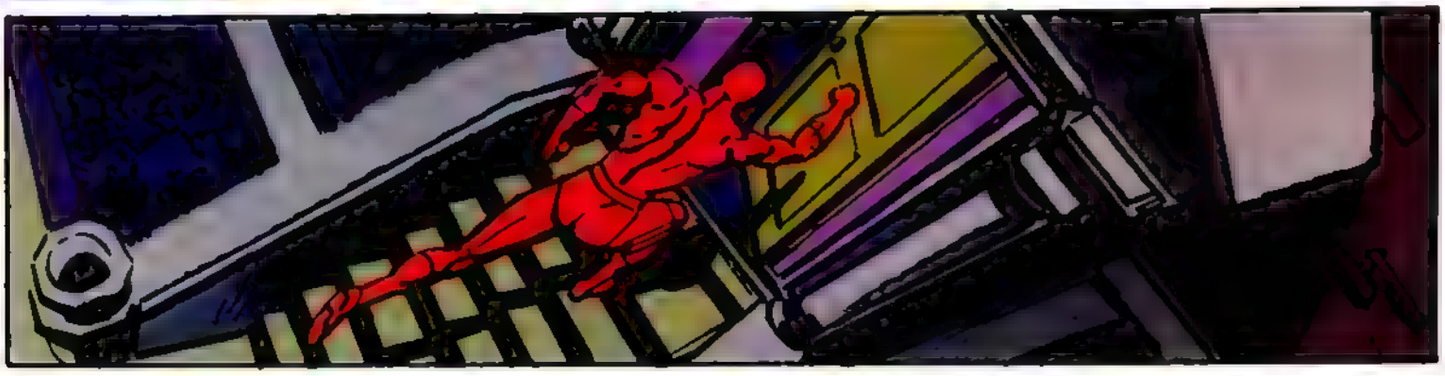

YOU WILL CEASE YOUR INVESTIGATION OF CHERRYH AND OF HIS COMMITMENTS TO ORGANIZED CRIME.

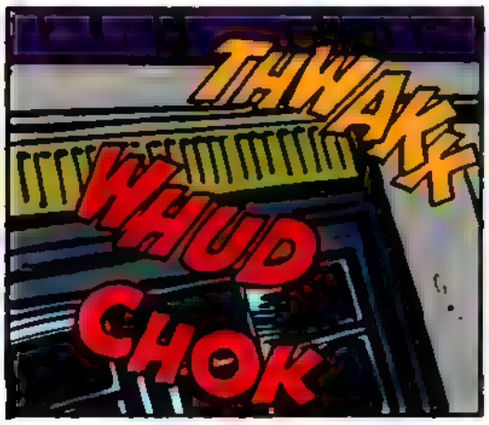
YOU WILL SIT NOW AND WATCH THE MOVIE.
AND YOU WILL THINK ABOUT HOW VERY VULNERABLE YOU ARE.

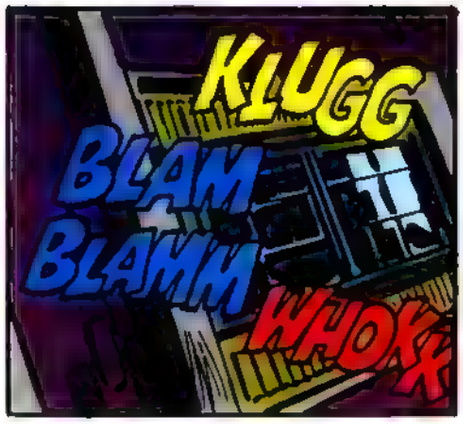

LATER . . .
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, HONEY.
IT'S JUST THAT THIS STORY IS SO IMPORTANT. . .
SO WAS THE LAST ONE, BEN. AND THE ONE BEFORE THAT. I HARDLY EVER SEE YOU ANYMORE.
ARE YOU AVOIDING ME? IS THAT IT?
AVOIDING YOU?!
HONEY, DON'T BE SILLY.
I JUST WANT TO GET US OUT OF THIS ROACH TRAP OF AN APARTMENT. GET US THAT HOUSE IN WESTCHESTER.
IF YOU'D JUST BE WITH ME MORE. . . THAT'S ALL I WANT.
I DON'T MEAN TO NAG, BUT--STOP THAT.
I'M SERIOUS.
TICKLES.
STAYING HOME TONIGHT?
WILD HORSES COULDN'T DRAG ME AWAY.
OR THE DALLAS COWBOY CHEER-LEADERS.
RINGGGG
YEAH. YEAH, IT'S ME. WHAT?
WHERE?
I'LL BE THERE IN TWENTY MINUTES.

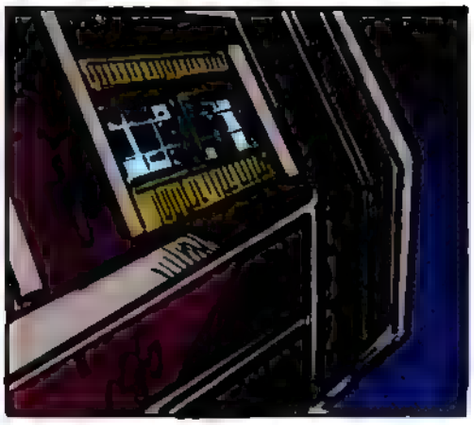

AND SO...
STILL SMOKING THOSE WEEDS, EH, BENNY BOY?
BET YOUR LUNGS LOOK LIKE SOMETHING DIED IN THEM.
WHAT'VE YOU GOT?
DON'T LET IT MAKE YOU BITTER.
CLEAN LUNGS. PINK AS A BABY'S BOTTOM.
ALSO, A TIP FOR YOU THAT'S WORTH THREE BILLS, EASY.
Y'SEE, CHERRYH'S GOT HIMSELF A LADY--A SECRET LADY HE MEETS TWICE A WEEK IN THAT HOTEL 'CROSS THE WAY.
JUST TO WORK OFF TENSION, Y'KNOW?
ANYWAY, HE TALKS TO HER--'BOUT HIS MARRIAGE, HIS JOB. EVERYTHING.
AND SHE'S MAYBE WILLING TO TALK TO YOU.
MAYBE.
DAREDEVIL??
BACK OFF, RED. I'LL SLICE YOU AND DICE YOU.
SUDDENLY EVERY SMALL-TIME OPERATOR IN TOWN IS BURSTING WITH NEWS ABOUT CHERRYH'S "SECRET LADY."
WHICH MEANS EITHER THE KINGPIN'S BEEN VERY, VERY SLOPPY--WHICH HE ISN'T--
--OR HE WANTS US TO GO INTO THAT HOTEL.
WHICH MEANS IT'S A TRAP.
PROBABLY FILLED WITH MEN, AND GUNS...
OOF!

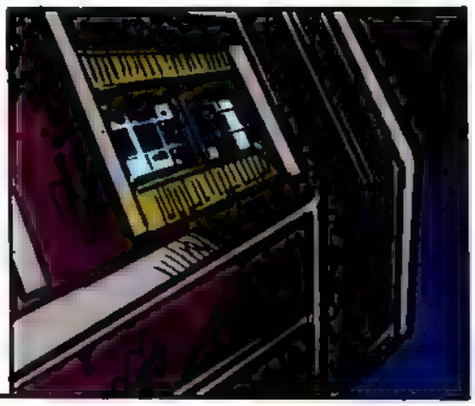




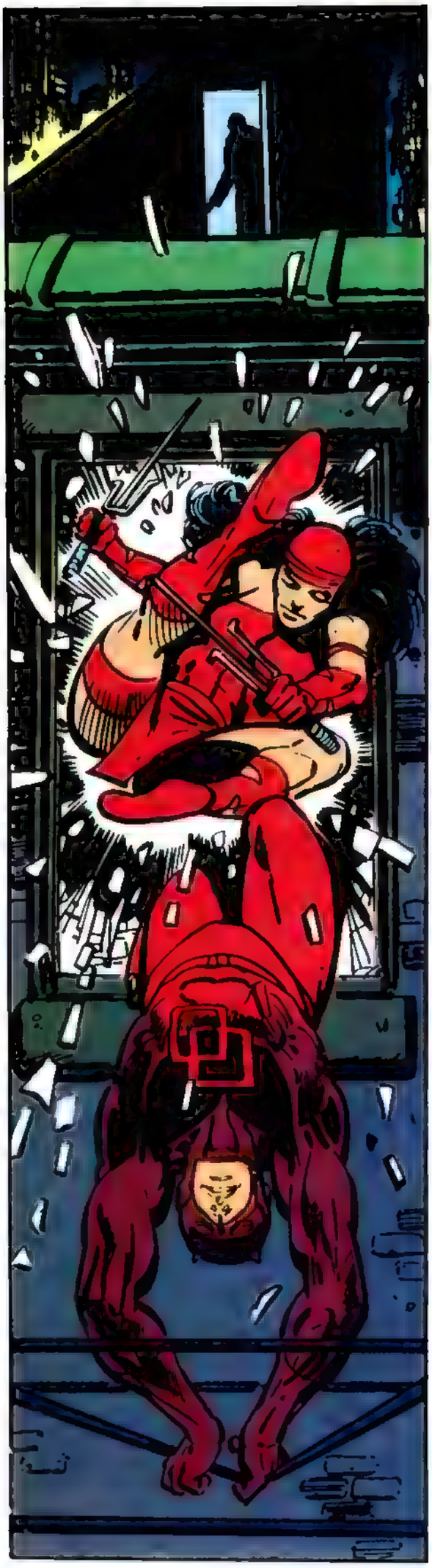

THWAKK
WHUD
CHOK

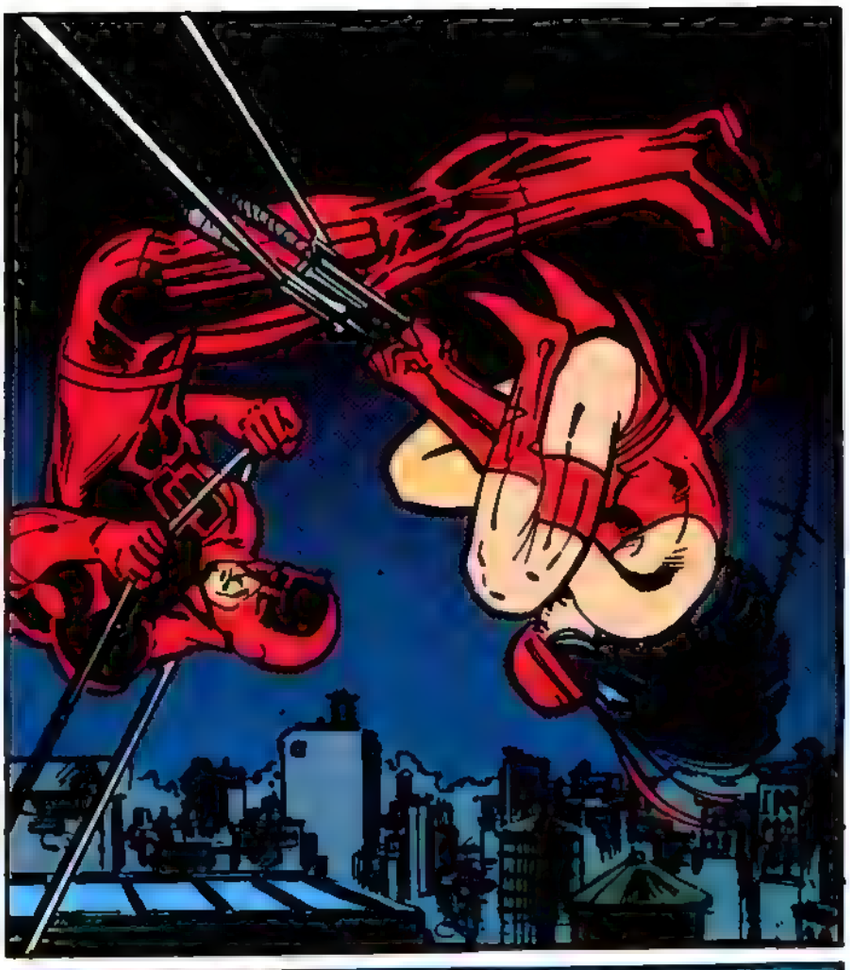

KLUGG
BLAM
BLAMM
WHOKK



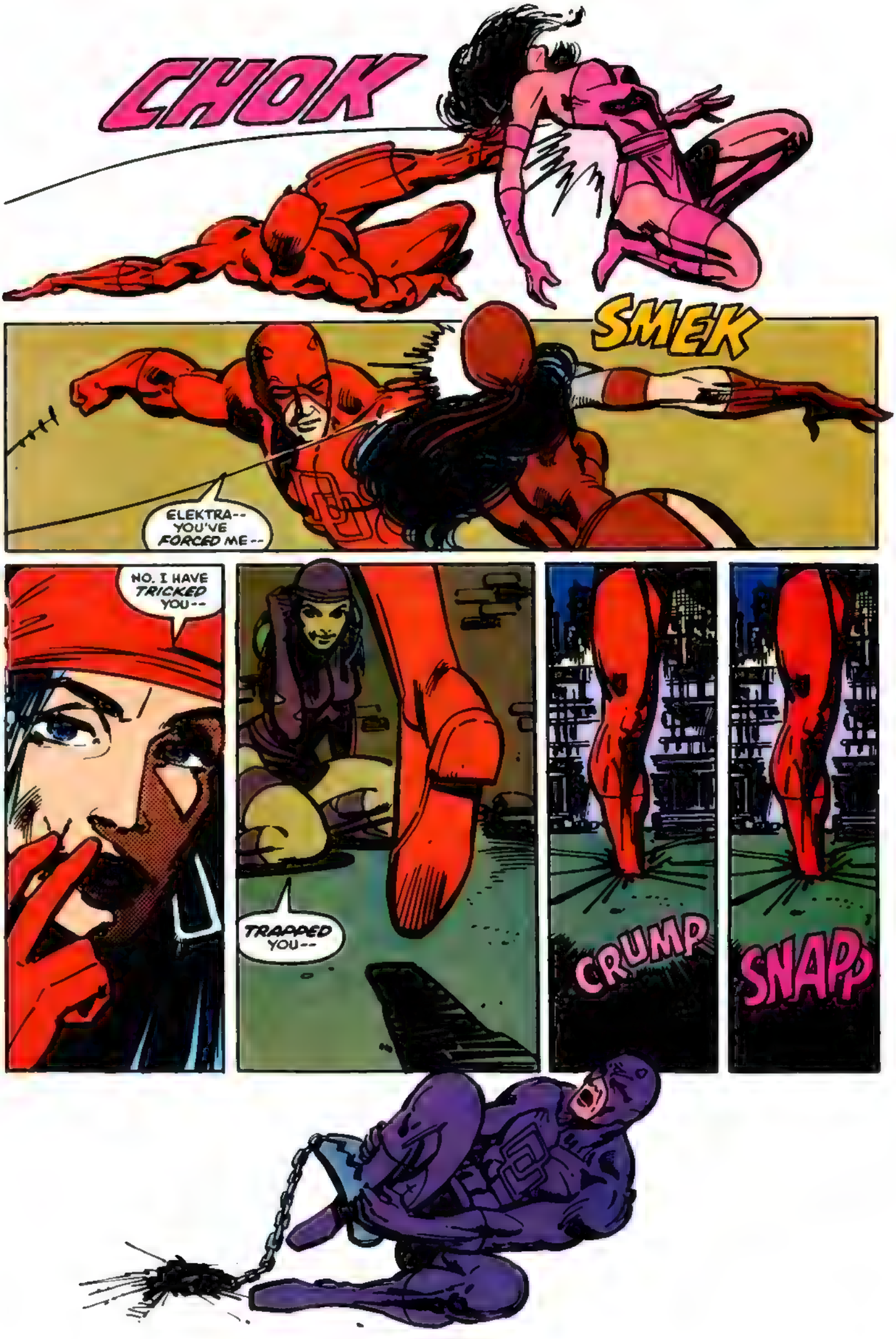


KTANNG
KRESSHH





KLUGG
THWAKKK
WHOKKK
SKREK



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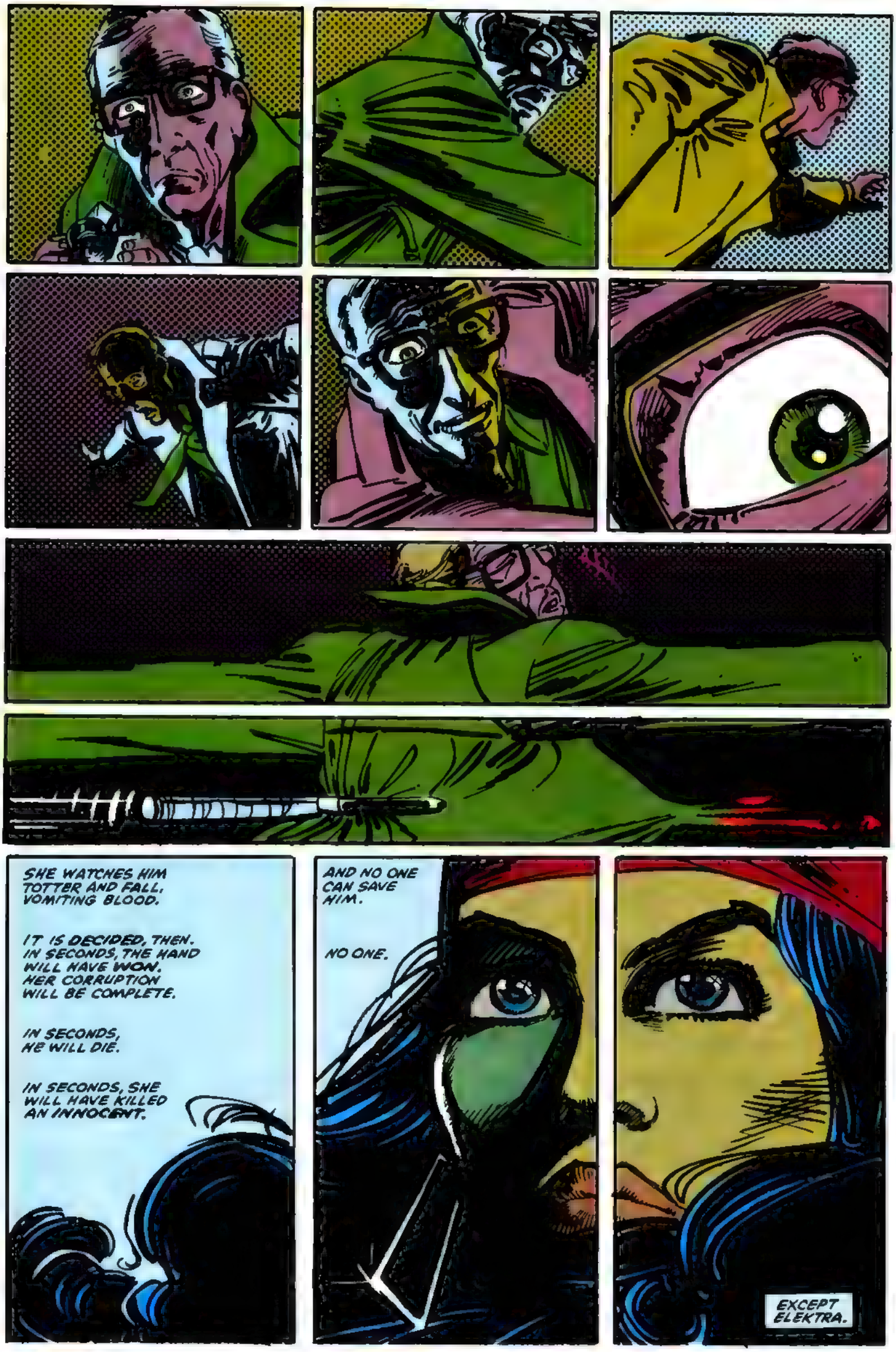
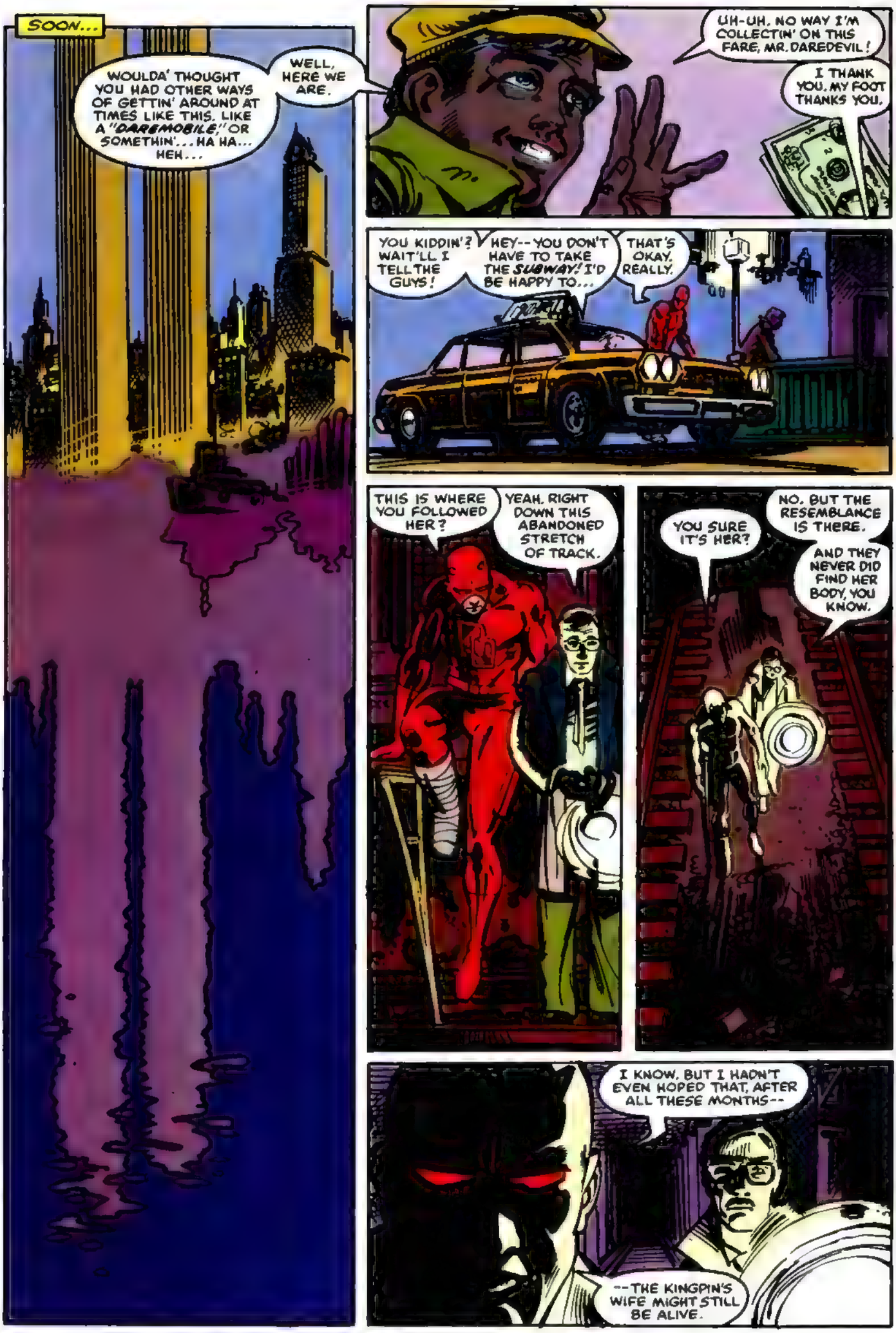
BE GRATEFUL THAT I DID NOT SET THAT TRAP TO SEVER YOUR FOOT. I WOULD HAVE--
--BUT THEN, YOU WOULD NOT BE SO COMPLETELY IMMOBILIZED.
SO UTTERLY HELPLESS...
SKREKK
ELEKTRA--!

KOFF
KOFF


SHE WATCHES HIM TOTTER AND FALL, VOMITING BLOOD.
IT IS DECIDED, THEN. IN SECONDS, THE HAND WILL HAVE WON. HER CORRUPTION WILL BE COMPLETE.
IN SECONDS, HE WILL DIE.
IN SECONDS, SHE WILL HAVE KILLED AN INNOCENT.
AND NO ONE CAN SAVE HIM.
NO ONE.
EXCEPT ELEKTRA.

LATER...
...THEN THAT LADY ASSASSIN BEAT UP DAREDEVIL AND THEN SHE WENT AFTER YOU? WOW!
MUST'VE BEEN EXCITING!
SCARY IS WHAT IT WAS, KID. THOUGHT I WAS DEAD.
SPENT TWO WEEKS BREATHING THROUGH A TUBE AND THINKING ABOUT HOW STUPID IT WAS FOR A SECOND-RATE REPORTER TO PLAY HERO.
YOU MEAN...?
YEAH. SOON AS I GOT BACK TO THE OFFICE, I TOOK THAT ASSASSIN'S ADVICE AND SPIKED THE CHERRYH STORY.
BUT--IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE REAL IMPORTANT, ISN'T IT, MR. URICH? IF CHERRYH WINS THE ELECTION...
...NEW YORK WILL HAVE A GANGSTER FOR A MAYOR.
TOUGH. IT'S NOT MY FIGHT. NOT AFTER WHAT I'VE BEEN THROUGH.
THEN WHY DEVELOP THE PICTURES?
I'LL SELL THEM TO JAMESON FOR INVENTORY. I CAN USE THE BUCKS.
NICE SHOT OF THE KINGPIN HERE. AND CHERRYH.
WHO'S THIS?
JUST A BAG LADY WHO SEEMED TO HAVE A THING FOR THE KINGPIN. MIGHT AS WELL TOSS...
WAIT A SECOND. THAT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE...NAW, IT COULDN'T BE...
KID, RUN DOWN THE HALL AND GET ME MY KINGPIN FILE. NOW.



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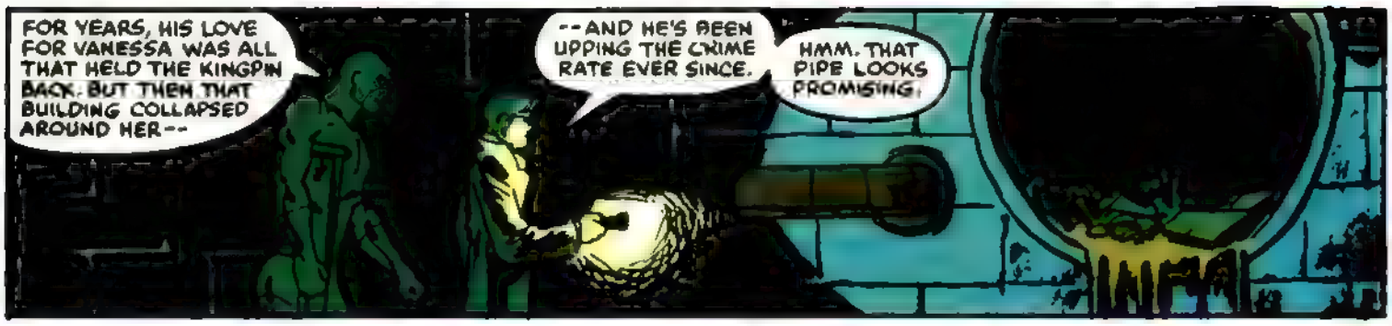

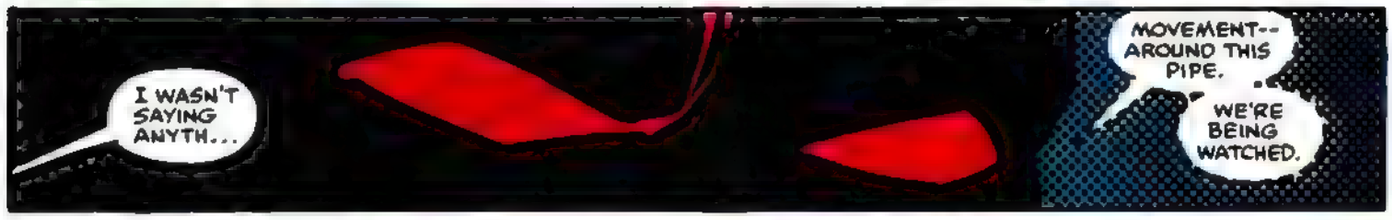

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THEY MURMUR AND LOOK BUT KEEP THEIR DISTANCE. THEY'RE SCARED OF HIM, ALL RIGHT, EVEN THESE ONES, THE CONVICTS.

THEY, AT LEAST, OUGHT TO UNDERSTAND HIM. AND MAYBE THEY DO...MAYBE THAT MAKES THEM ALL THE MORE SCARED.

THE KILLER WAITS...

WOAH, MAN! YOU CRAZY?

THAT'S *BULLSEYE*. HE'LL KILL YOU SOON AS LOOK AT YOU!

HE'S... HE'S...

HEY...ARE *YOU*--

--YOU *ARE*...

I'M GONE.

I RECOGNIZE YOU. YOU'RE THE *PUNISHER*. YOU'RE IN THE JOINT FOR KILLING GUYS LIKE ME.

THIS YOUR FIRST DAY?

MY THIRD.

YOU'VE GOT LOTS OF ENEMIES HERE, PUNISHER. ONE WEEK--TOPS--AND YOU'LL BE LEAVING. IN A BAG.

COULD BE.

BUT YOU'RE STAYING.

YOU'VE BEEN ON GOOD BEHAVIOR, WAITING FOR YOUR OLD BOSS--THE *KINGPIN*--TO BREAK YOU OUT.

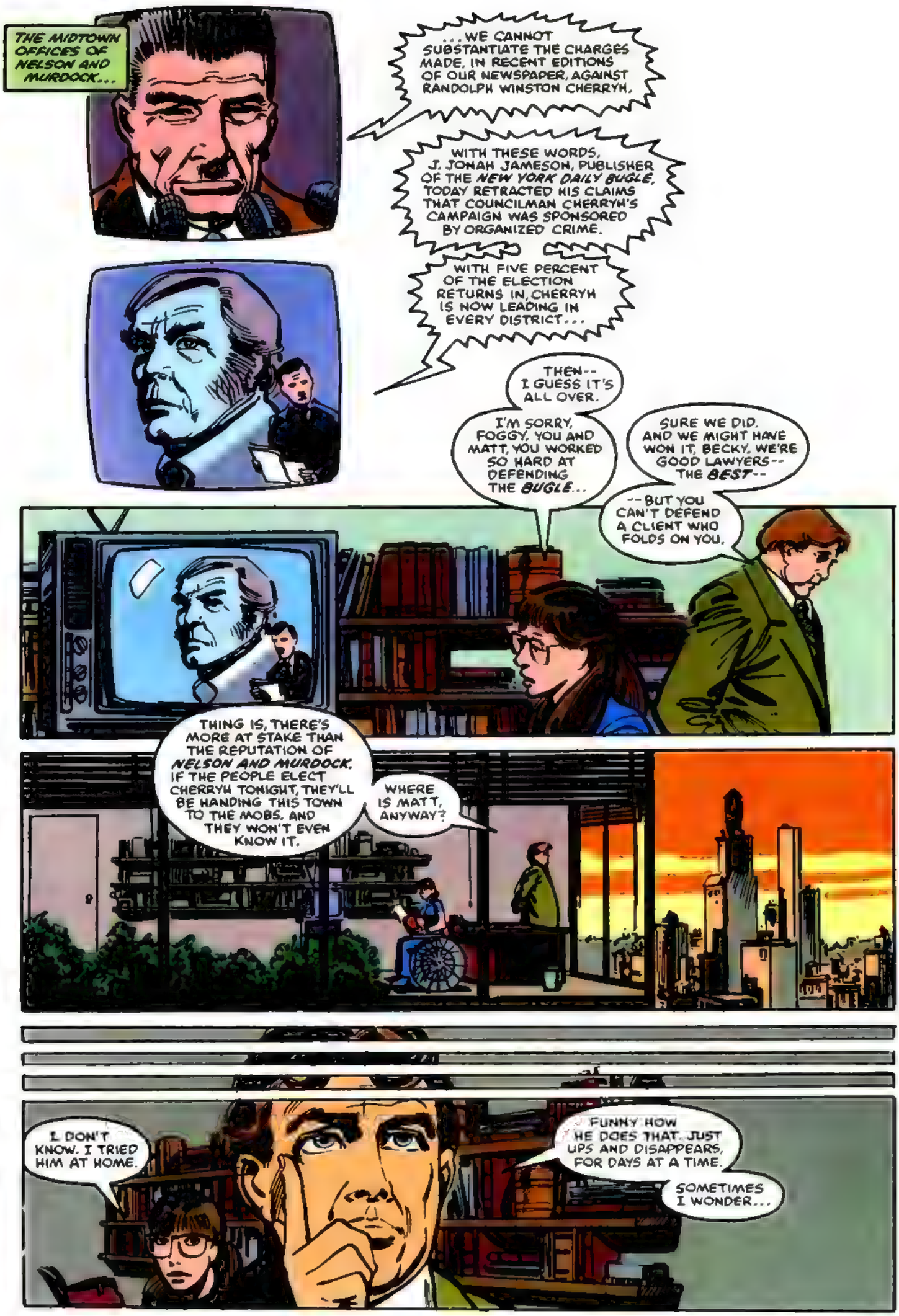
HE'S NOT GOING TO. WORD ON THE YARD IS THAT HE'S FOUND A NEW ASSASSIN. DOESN'T NEED YOU ANY-MORE.

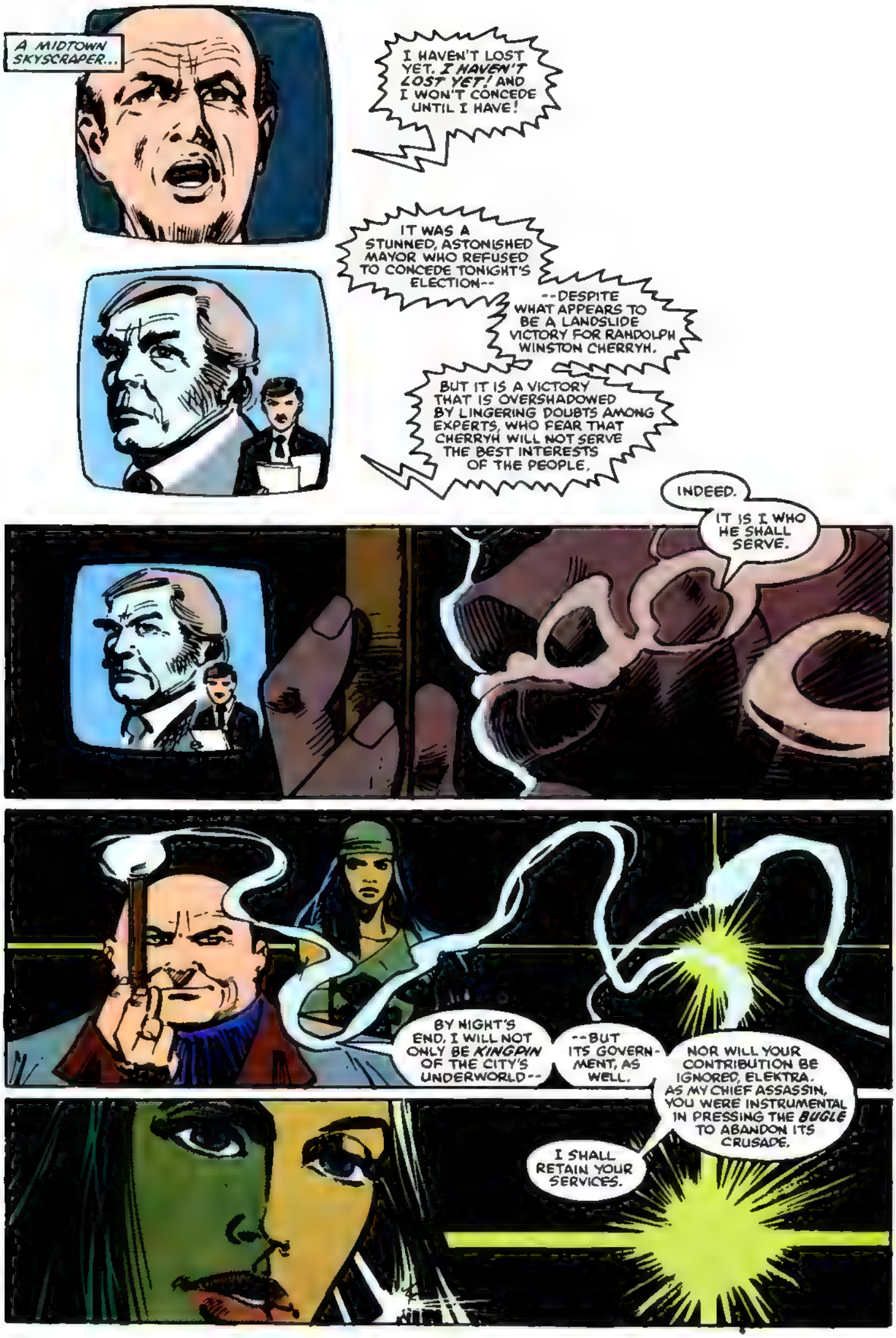
THAT ROTTEN--

WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?

CHANCES ARE YOU'LL DO SOME-THING DUMB. GET YOURSELF KILLED.

I'D LIKE THAT.


THE MIDTOWN OFFICES OF NELSON AND MURDOCK...
...WE CANNOT SUBSTANTIATE THE CHARGES MADE, IN RECENT EDITIONS OF OUR NEWSPAPER, AGAINST RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH.
WITH THESE WORDS, J. JONAH JAMESON, PUBLISHER OF THE NEW YORK DAILY BUGLE, TODAY RETRACTED HIS CLAIMS THAT COUNCILMAN CHERRYH'S CAMPAIGN WAS SPONSORED BY ORGANIZED CRIME.
WITH FIVE PERCENT OF THE ELECTION RETURNS IN, CHERRYH IS NOW LEADING IN EVERY DISTRICT...
THEN-- I GUESS IT'S ALL OVER.
I'M SORRY, FOGGY. YOU AND MATT, YOU WORKED SO HARD AT DEFENDING THE BUGLE...
SURE WE DID. AND WE MIGHT HAVE WON IT, BECKY. WE'RE GOOD LAWYERS-- THE BEST--
--BUT YOU CAN'T DEFEND A CLIENT WHO FOLDS ON YOU.
THING IS, THERE'S MORE AT STAKE THAN THE REPUTATION OF NELSON AND MURDOCK. IF THE PEOPLE ELECT CHERRYH TONIGHT, THEY'LL BE HANDING THIS TOWN TO THE MOBS, AND THEY WON'T EVEN KNOW IT.
WHERE IS MATT, ANYWAY?
I DON'T KNOW. I TRIED HIM AT HOME.
FUNNY HOW HE DOES THAT. JUST UPS AND DISAPPEARS, FOR DAYS AT A TIME.
SOMETIMES I WONDER...


A MIDTOWN SKYSCRAPER...
I HAVEN'T LOST YET. I HAVEN'T LOST YET! AND I WON'T CONCEDE UNTIL I HAVE!
IT WAS A STUNNED, ASTONISHED MAYOR WHO REFUSED TO CONCEDE TONIGHT'S ELECTION--
--DESPITE WHAT APPEARS TO BE A LANDSLIDE VICTORY FOR RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH.
BUT IT IS A VICTORY THAT IS OVERSHADOWED BY LINGERING DOUBTS AMONG EXPERTS, WHO FEAR THAT CHERRYH WILL NOT SERVE THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE.
INDEED.
IT IS I WHO HE SHALL SERVE.
BY NIGHT'S END, I WILL NOT ONLY BE KINGPIN OF THE CITY'S UNDERWORLD--
--BUT ITS GOVERNMENT, AS WELL.
NOR WILL YOUR CONTRIBUTION BE IGNORED, ELEKTRA. AS MY CHIEF ASSASSIN, YOU WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN PRESSING THE BUGLE TO ABANDON ITS CRUSADE.
I SHALL RETAIN YOUR SERVICES.

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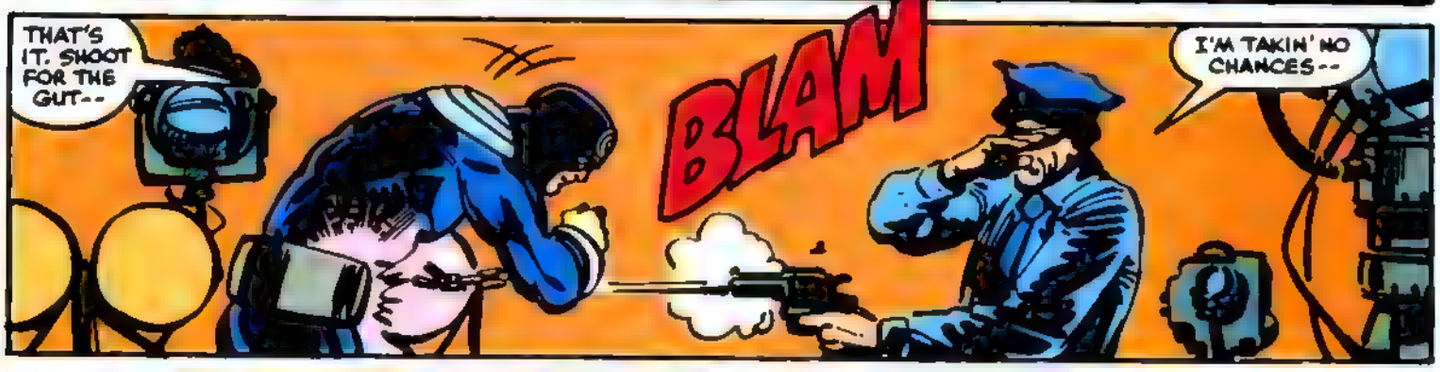
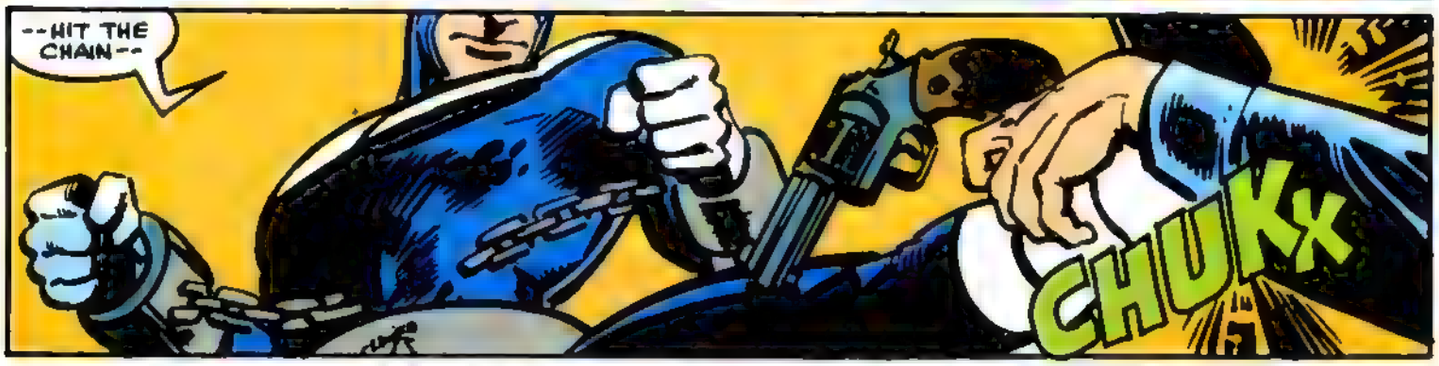
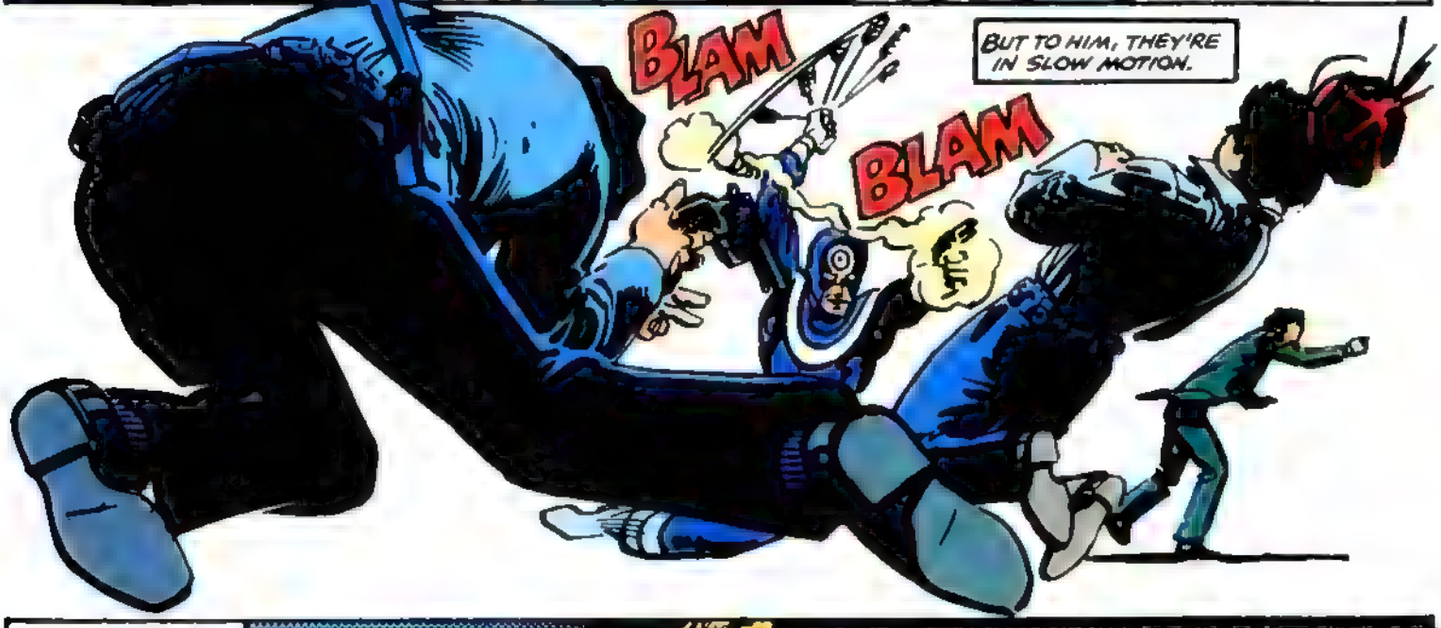
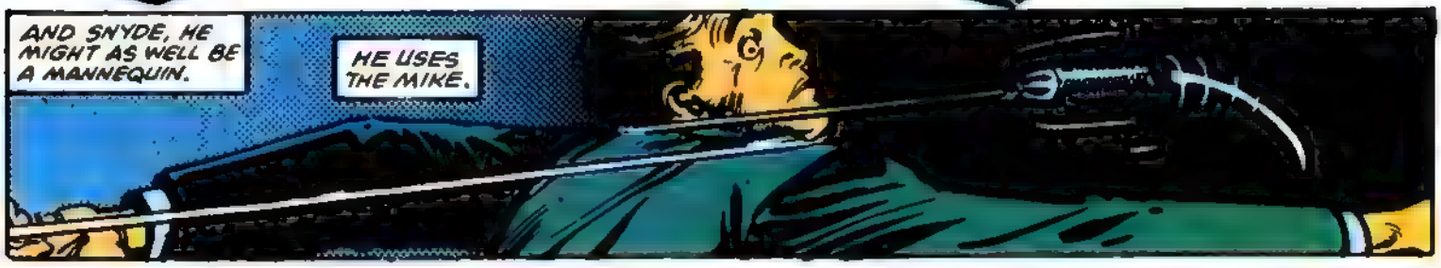
--SUCKER!
OWW!
PTWEE
YOU LOUSY--


THAT'S IT. SHOOT FOR THE GUT--
BLAM
I'M TAKIN' NO CHANCES--

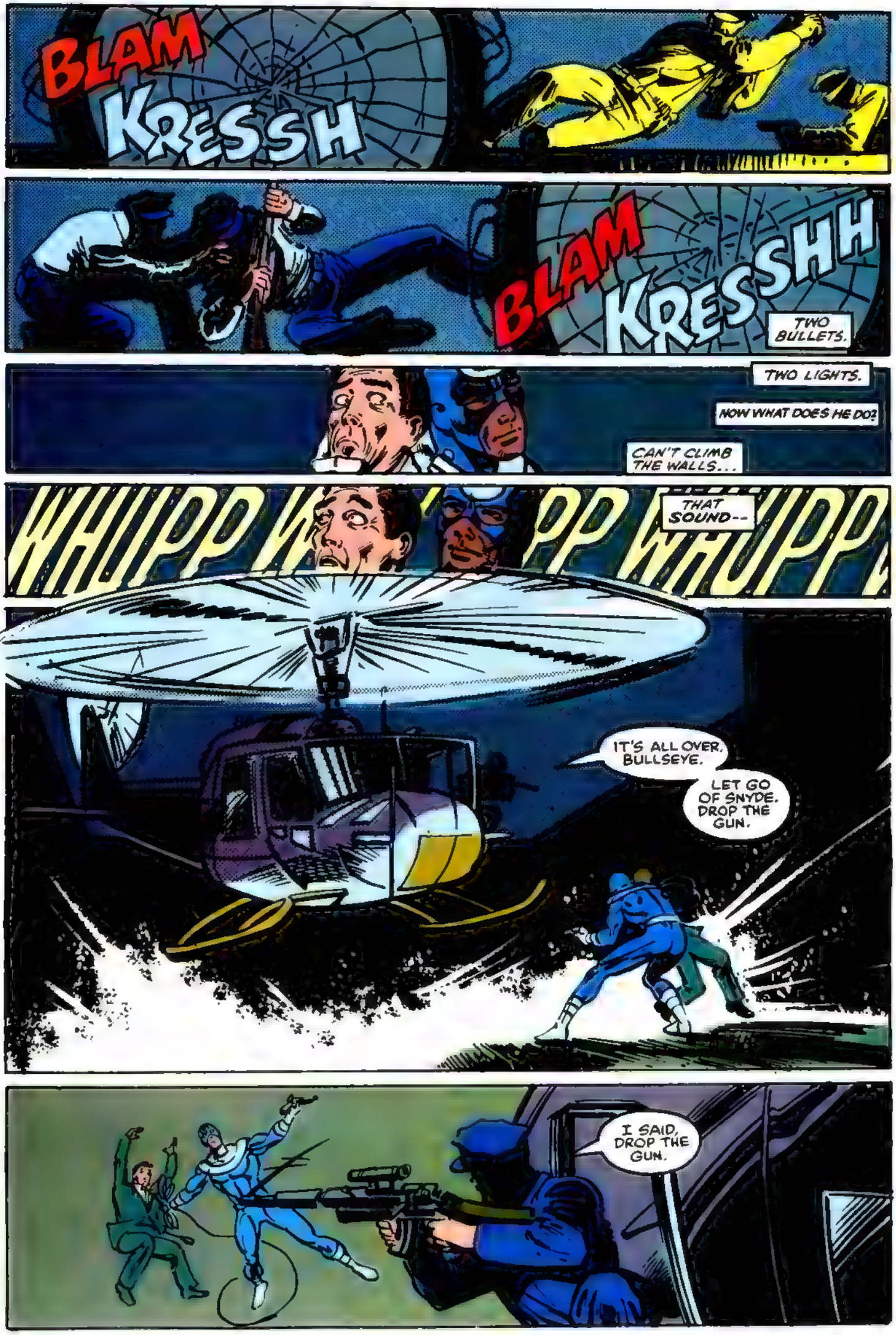

--HIT THE CHAIN--
CHUKx

THE OTHER GUARDS REACT PRETTY QUICKLY. THEY'RE WELL TRAINED.


BLAM
BLAM
BUT TO HIM, THEY'RE IN SLOW MOTION.


AND SNYDE, HE MIGHT AS WELL BE A MANNEQUIN.
HE USES THE MIKE.

DROP YOUR GUNS-- OPEN THE DOOR AND GET INSIDE-- OR SNYDE'S A CORPSE!
DO AS HE SAYS.
BLAMM
CHING
YOU BOYS JUST STAY LOCKED IN THE CELL AND I'LL...
GEE, I ALMOST FORGOT.
HARRY.
I MADE YOU A PROMISE, HARRY. REMEMBER?
BULLSEYE-- PLEASE--
DON'T--
BLAMM
YEAH, YEAH...
THAT WAS DUMB. FUN, BUT DUMB.
ONLY TWO BULLETS LEFT IN THE GUN NOW AND NO TIME TO GRAB ANOTHER ONE.
HE MAKES IT DOWN AND OUT TO THE YARD.
AROOGA
AROO
AROOGA
AF
FREEZE, BULLSEYE! THERE'S NOWHERE TO GO.

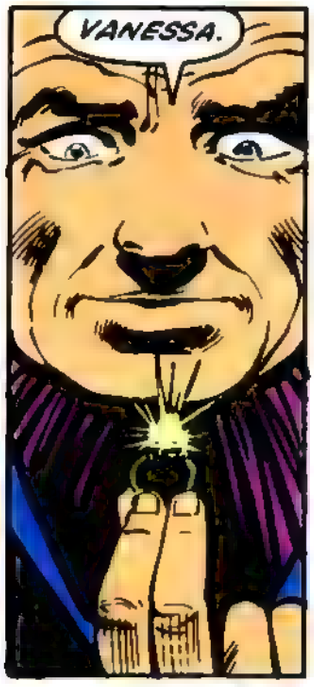

BLAM
KRESSH
BLAM
KRESSHH
TWO BULLETS.
TWO LIGHTS.
NOW WHAT DOES HE DO?
CAN'T CLIMB THE WALLS...
THAT SOUND--
WHUPP
IT'S ALL OVER, BULLSEYE.
LET GO OF SNYDE. DROP THE GUN.
I SAID, DROP THE GUN.

KRAK
BLAM
LOU! LOU!
OH, NO...
GOTTA GET UP, BEFORE--
NO...
EYYAAAAAA
HE'LL TAKE THE COPTER ACROSS THE RIVER TO MANHATTAN. THEN HE'LL BE FREE.
FREE TO HUNT.
THE WAITING IS OVER.

A MIDTOWN SKYSCRAPER...
...AND LET ME ASSURE THE GOOD--THE GREAT--PEOPLE OF NEW YORK I WILL DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF THIS OFFICE WITH PASSION--
--THAT TOGETHER, WE WILL MAKE NEW YORK CITY THE SPEARHEAD OF THIS ERA OF NATIONAL RENEWAL!

WITH THAT, RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH ACCEPTED THE MANDATE OF THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK CITY--
--AND ENJOYED THE GREATEST LANDSLIDE VICTORY IN THE CITY'S HISTORY!

TAKK


VANESSA.

SHE'S ALIVE.
I HAVE HER.

WHAT DO YOU WANT ?

CHERRYH.

THREE HOURS LATER...
IT IS WITH PROFOUND REGRET...SHAME...THAT I MUST NOW...MUST WITHDRAW FROM...NOT... NOT ACCEPT THE OFFICE OF MAYOR...
THE CHARGES MADE AGAINST ME... THEY'RE TRUE, ALL OF THEM...MY CONSCIENCE... IT WOULDN'T LET ME... I'M SORRY...
YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST, FOLKS! RANDOLPH CHERRYH HAS GIVEN UP THE OFFICE OF MAYOR!
MORE ON THIS AS IT DEVELOPS...
CHERRYH FOLLOWED ORDERS TO THE END.
I CANNOT ALLOW THIS SERIOUS A DEFEAT TO PASS WITHOUT SOME GESTURE OF RETRIBUTION, HOWEVER SMALL.
SOMEONE MUST DIE.
IT CANNOT BE JAMESON. TOO MUCH DANGER OF A PUBLIC BACKLASH.
NOR CAN IT BE THE LAWYER MURDOCK. DAREDEVIL HAS DEFENDED HIM, SEVERAL TIMES, AND IT IS MY WISH TO AVOID SO COSTLY A CONFLICT.
BUT MURDOCK HAS A PARTNER-- AN UNIMPORTANT MAN, WHO FEW WILL MISS, AND NONE WILL DEFEND.
YOUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT, ELEKTRA.
YOU SHALL ELIMINATE FRANKLIN NELSON.

HE HAS **BUSINESS** TO TAKE CARE OF--THE ASSASSIN WHO DARED TO TAKE HIS PLACE.

HE KNOWS VERY WELL WHERE TO FIND THE INFORMATION HE NEEDS--THE DOCKSIDE HIDE-OUT OF **ERIC SLAUGHTER**...

YEW WANT US TO SNUFF *WHO?*

LOCO--THAT'S WHAT *YEW* ARE, MR. SLAUGHTER.

WATCH YOUR TONGUE, TEX--OR I'LL HAVE IT REMOVED.

OUR AUTONOMY AS A FREE-LANCE ASSASSINATION OPERATION EXISTS ONLY SO LONG AS THE *KINGPIN* TOLERATES IT. HE IS THE UNQUESTIONED RULER OF THE UNDERWORLD.

HE CONSIDERS *BULLSEYE* TO BE DANGEROUS AND ERRATIC, AND DOES NOT WANT HIM TO DISRUPT THE ORDER OF THINGS.

SHOOT. THAT DON'T MEAN *WE* HAVE TO...

IT DOES.

OKAY. ALL RIGHT. BUT WE SURE AS HECK BETTER GET TOP RATE FOR THIS ONE.

PLUS OVERTIME.

AH GOT ME A WIFE AN' KIDS TO THINK ABOUT.

MATTER OF FACT, AH GOT ME *TWO* WIVES AN'...

WHUT THE...MAH *SMOKE*--

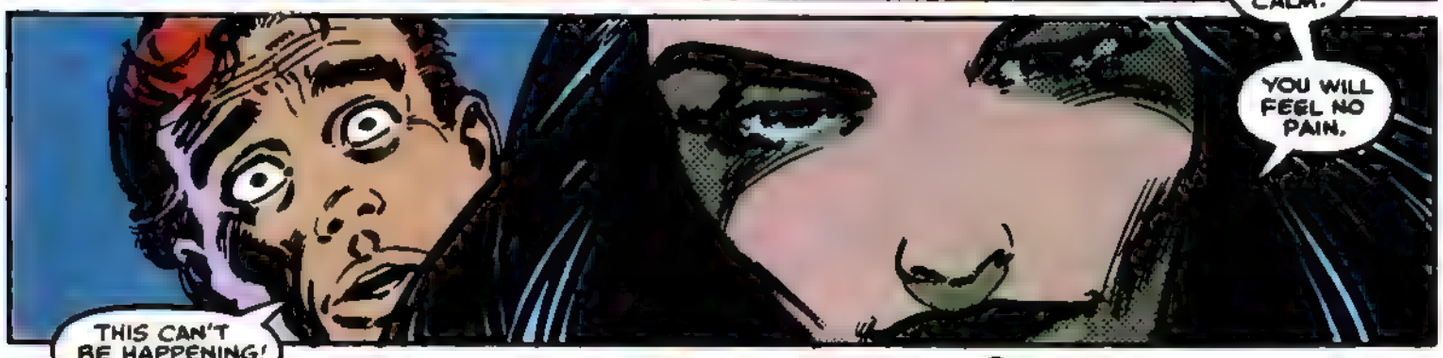
SHE'S *GONE!*

HOWDY.
IT'S BULLSEYE!
KILL HIM.
WHOK
FAPP
KUGG
SWAKK
EXCELLENT. I SEE YOU'VE KEPT IN SHAPE.
THE ONE YOU DOUBTLESS SEEK IS A FORMER NINJA-- A WOMAN--NAMED ELEKTRA. THE ONLY LEAD I CAN GIVE YOU IS THAT SHE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ELIMINATE AN ATTORNEY NAMED FRANKLIN NELSON.
CIGAR?

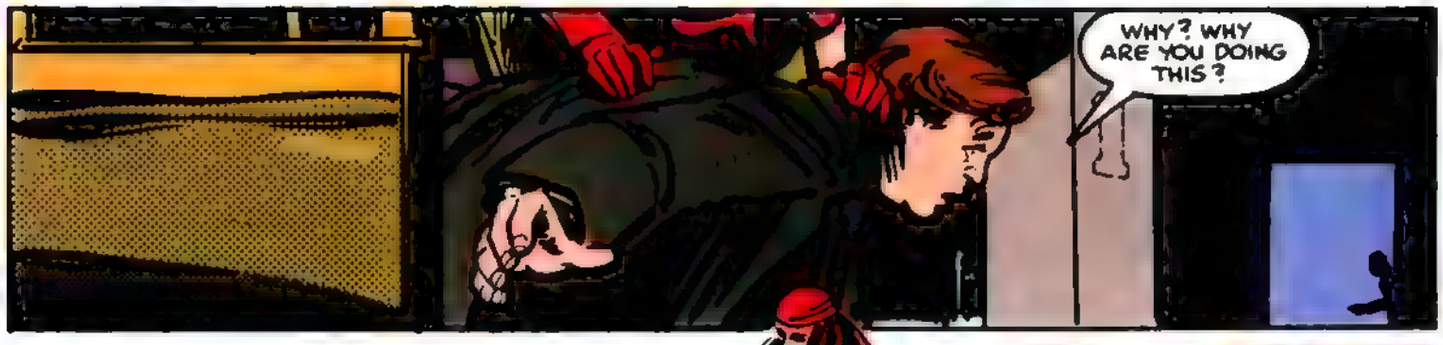
NINJA! HE'S UP AGAINST A NINJA! THIS COULD GET INTERESTING. A LOT MORE INTERESTING THAN FRANKLIN NELSON, THAT'S FOR SURE. KILLING THIS PUDGY ATTORNEY WOULDN'T TAKE THREE SECONDS.
WHICH IS ABOUT HOW LONG IT TAKES THE KILLER TO SLIP AN ELECTRONIC LISTENING DEVICE ON NELSON...
ZIPPITTY DO DA, ZIPPITTY AYY, MY OH MY...
YO! TAXI!
ZIPPITTY DO DA, ZIPPITTY AYY, MY OH MY...
YO! TAXI!
NOW MORE WAITING... NELSON WILL TAKE HIM TO THIS ELEKTRA SOON ENOUGH.
UH...FOLLOW THAT CAB.
GET LOST. I'M OFF DUTY.
YOU HEAR ME, JACK? THAT'S O-F-F...
...D-UUUURRGGG!
SHTKK
HE FOLLOWS NELSON'S CAB UP SIXTH AVENUE, AND LISTENS, SURPRISED AT HIS OWN EAGERNESS. VERY SOON, HE KNOWS THE NINJA'S PLAN. HE KNOWS SHE IS HERE. HE FEELS SO VERY ALIVE...
...SO VERY CLOSE TO SATISFACTION...
GOLLY. NEVER RODE WITH A LADY CAB DRIVER BEFORE.
EXCUSE ME, BUT YOU'RE DRIVING AWFUL FAST...

I HAVE BEEN HIRED TO KILL YOU, MR. NELSON.

IT'S HER. IT'S GOT TO BE.
ELEKTRA.


BE SILENT. BE CALM.
YOU WILL FEEL NO PAIN.

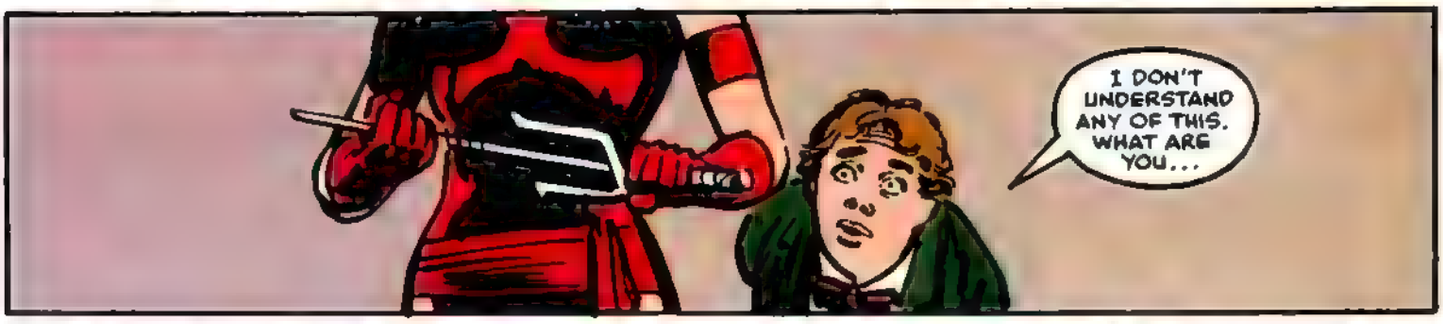
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING! IT CAN'T!
OH, PLEASE, NO... NO...


WHY? WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

PLEASE... PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY. I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU...

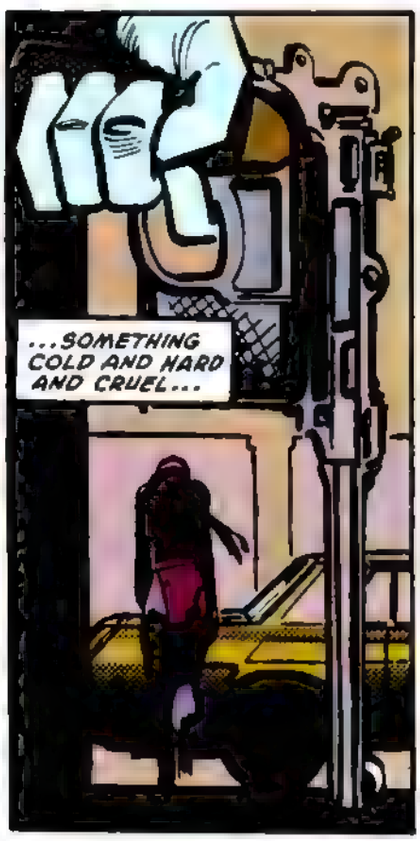
YES... I DO... I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE...

IN COLLEGE...
YOU WERE MATT'S GIRL...
ELEKTRA.

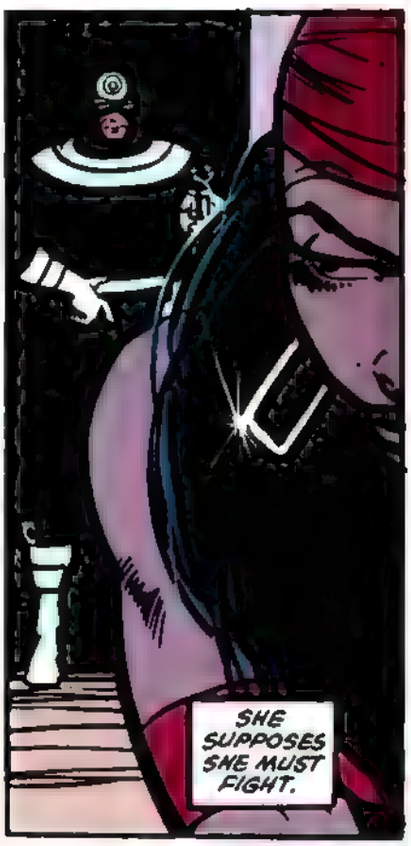

I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS. WHAT ARE YOU...

GET OUT OF HERE.

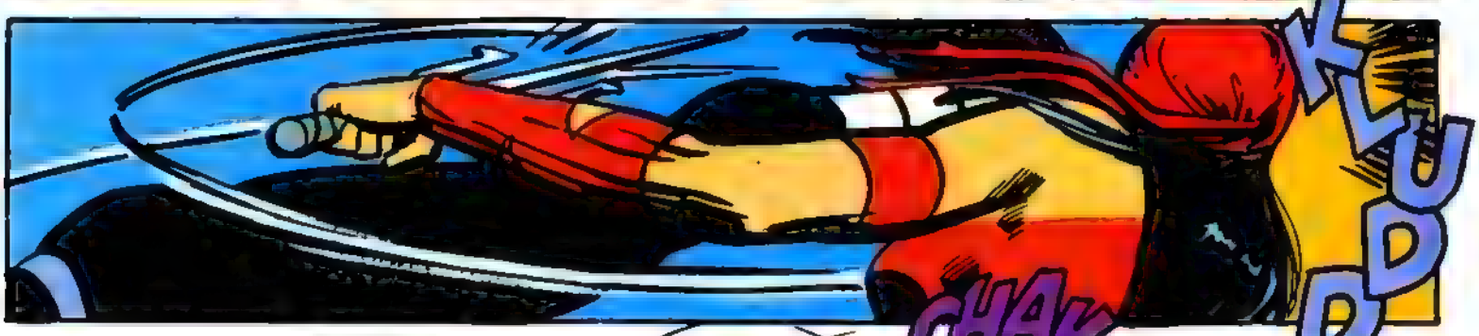
NOW, SHE FEELS IT...LIKE A WIND, ROARING UP FROM HELL... LIKE A FALL, FROM A PROUD, UNFORGIVING CLIFF...


...SOMETHING COLD AND HARD AND CRUEL...

...LIKE THE EYES OF A KILLER AT HER BACK.


SHE SUPPOSES SHE MUST FIGHT.

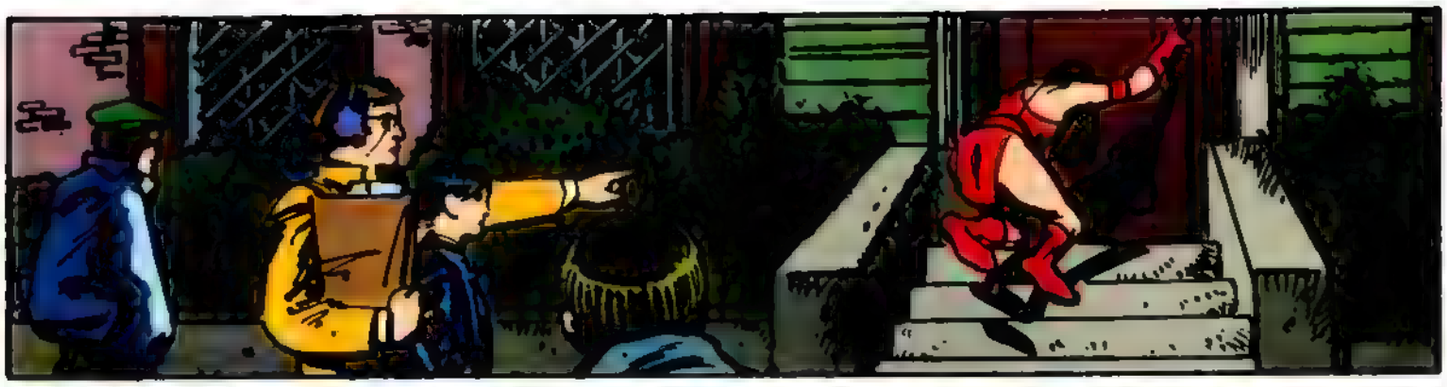
THWOK
KPHK
CHUDD
KRESSHH
SWTAKK


KLUDD

CHAK

AAHHH!
CHUNK
KRAK
THOK
FAPP

KLUDD
PUT UP... PRETTY GOOD FIGHT, TOOTS...
...YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD...
BUT ME...
I'M MAGIC.
AND, FOR MY NEXT TRICK--



MATT...

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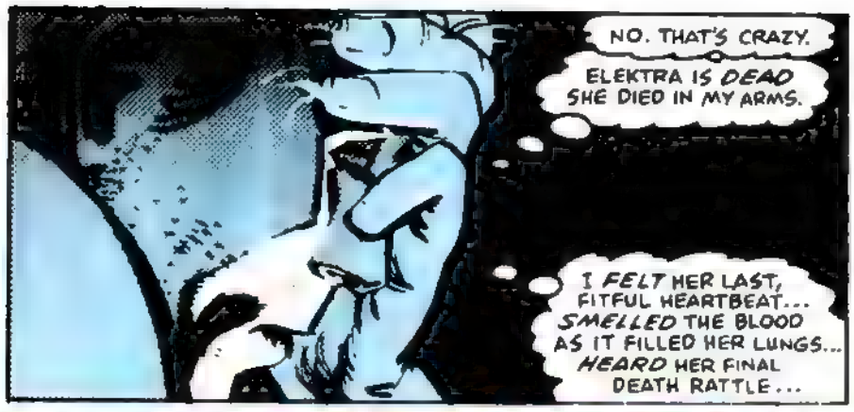
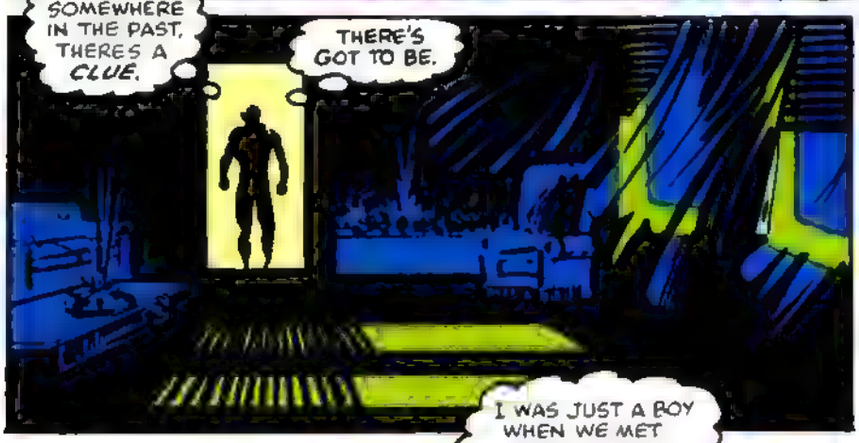
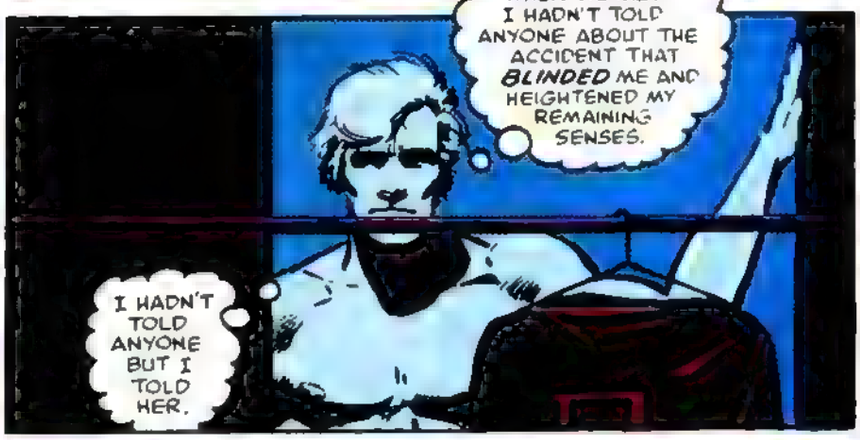
SHE'S ALIVE.


NO. THAT'S CRAZY.
ELEKTRA IS DEAD SHE DIED IN MY ARMS.
I FELT HER LAST, FITFUL HEARTBEAT... SMELLED THE BLOOD AS IT FILLED HER LUNGS... HEARD HER FINAL DEATH RATTLE...

SHE'S DEAD.
SHE'S ALIVE
I CAN FEEL IT. I KNOW IT

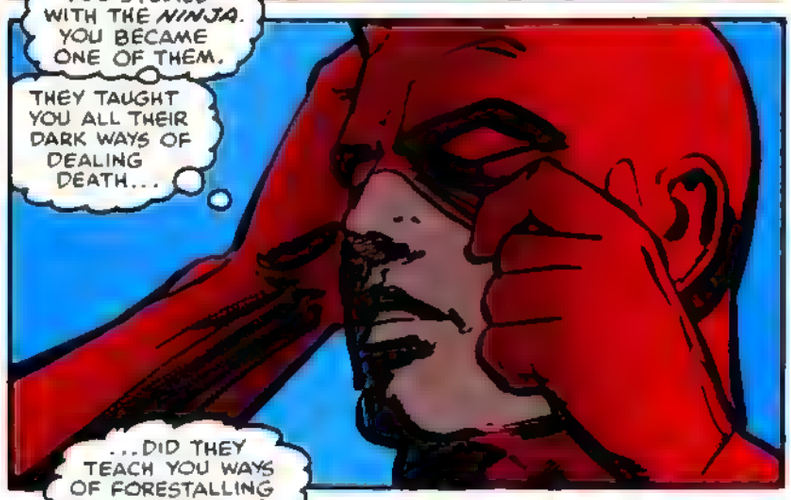

GOT TO THINK. REMEMBER.
SOMEWHERE IN THE PAST, THERE'S A CLUE.
THERE'S GOT TO BE.


I WAS JUST A BOY WHEN WE MET I HADN'T TOLD ANYONE ABOUT THE ACCIDENT THAT BLINDED ME AND HEIGHTENED MY REMAINING SENSES.
I HADN'T TOLD ANYONE BUT I TOLD HER.

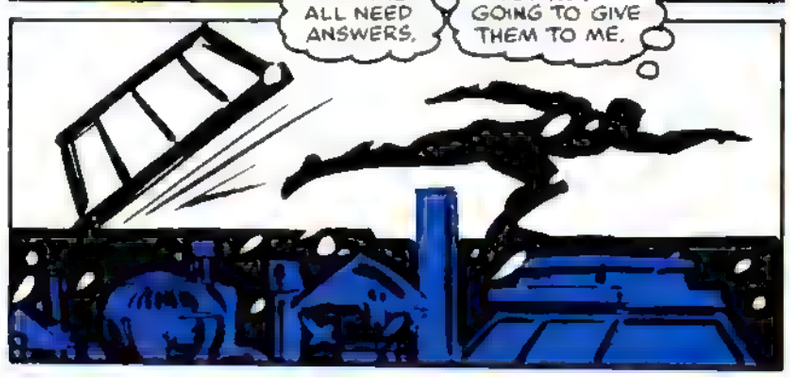
WE WERE CHILDREN. LOVING WITHOUT PAIN..
...WITHOUT DUTY...

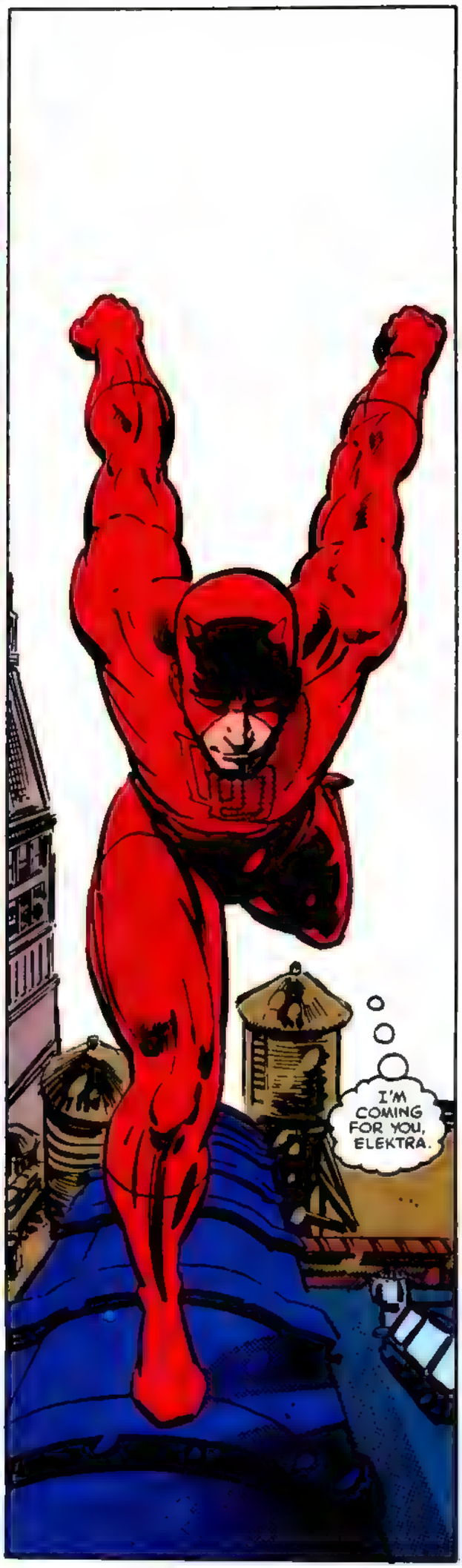
HOW DID IT HAPPEN, ELEKTRA? WHAT BROUGHT US TO THIS?
WHAT MADE YOU HURT ME SO?
DID I FAIL YOU IN SOME WAY--

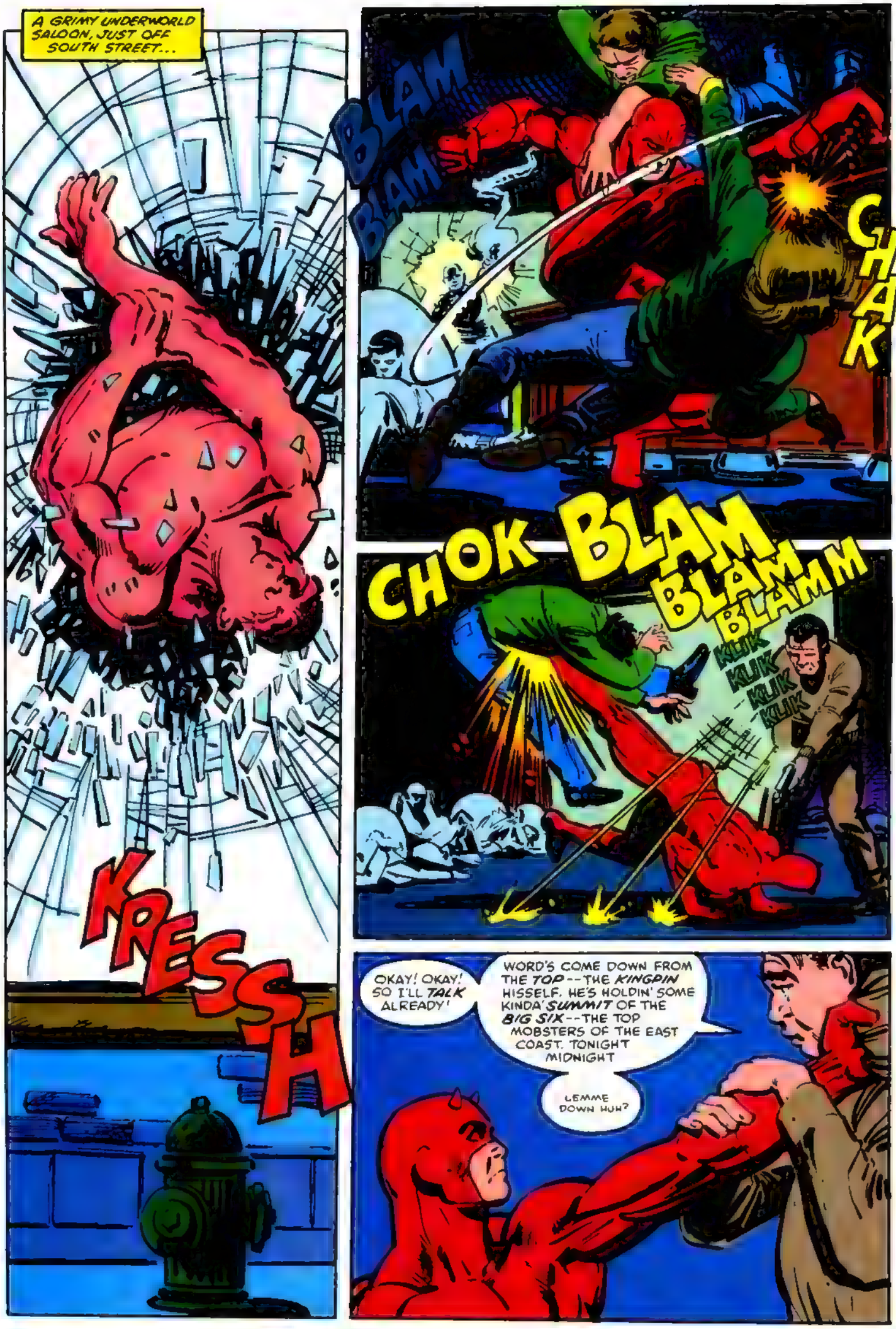
--OR WERE YOU POSSESSED BY SOME AWFUL INNER DEMON, THAT MADE YOU KILL, AND KILL...


YOU STUDIED WITH THE NINJA. YOU BECAME ONE OF THEM.
THEY TAUGHT YOU ALL THEIR DARK WAYS OF DEALING DEATH...

...DID THEY TEACH YOU WAYS OF FORESTALLING DEATH, AS WELL?
OR FAKING IT?
DID THEY?

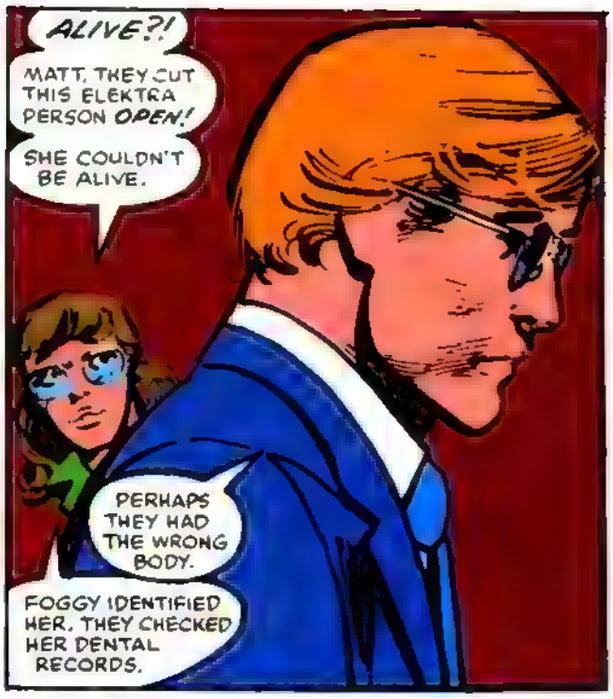

SO MANY QUESTIONS. AND THEY ALL NEED ANSWERS.
YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE THEM TO ME.


I'M COMING FOR YOU, ELEKTRA.


A GRIMY UNDERWORLD SALOON, JUST OFF SOUTH STREET...
KRESSH
BLAM BLAM
CHAK
CHOK
BLAM
BLAM
BLAMM
KLIK KLIK KLIK KLIK
OKAY! OKAY! SO I'LL TALK ALREADY!
WORD'S COME DOWN FROM THE TOP--THE KINGPIN HISSELF. HE'S HOLDIN' SOME KINDA' SUMMIT OF THE BIG SIX--THE TOP MOBSTERS OF THE EAST COAST. TONIGHT MIDNIGHT
LEMME DOWN HUH?

SUMMIT CONFERENCE? NOT WHAT I'D EXPECT--
--BUT IT MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH ELEKTRA. MAYBE THE KINGPIN IS SELLING ELEKTRA'S SERVICES TO ANOTHER CITY.
IT'S EARLY YET. I'VE GOT TIME TO SWITCH BACK TO MATT MURDOCK AND FIND OUT IF THE CORONER'S REPORT HAS ARRIVED AT MY OFFICE...

...LACERATION OF THE THROAT.. SHATTERED JAW... HEART PUNCTURED BY...
MATT, DO I HAVE TO GO ON? FOGGY'S ALMOST DUE WITH MRS. VAN DER LEAR
WHO?
THE CUSTODY CASE. THE BIG MONEY CUSTODY CASE DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
JUST KEEP READING, BECKY.
ALL WE NEED IS AN ELEMENT OF DOUBT... A HINT THAT ELEKTRA MAY BE ALIVE...


ALIVE?!
MATT, THEY CUT THIS ELEKTRA PERSON OPEN!
SHE COULDN'T BE ALIVE.
PERHAPS THEY HAD THE WRONG BODY.
FOGGY IDENTIFIED HER. THEY CHECKED HER DENTAL RECORDS.

RECORDS CAN BE CHANGED. FOGGY HADN'T SEEN HER IN YEARS.
AND, IF IT WAS THE WRONG BODY...

TAP TAP TAP
AREN'T WE GRISLY?
HEATHER!
MATT, IT'S HEATHER GLENN.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL HIM WHO I AM, BECKY MATT MAY BE BLIND, BUT HE'S GOT THE BEST EARS IN TOWN
RECOGNIZE MY VOICE, LOVER?
HEATHER? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE'VE GOT A DATE REMEMBER?
NO. I FORGOT.
CAN'T MAKE IT ANYWAY, I'M BUSY.
MY HAND--!
YOU HURT MY HAND!
MATT WHAT'S--
SORRY.
BECKY-- THE REPORT. I NEED TO KNOW THE EXACT CONDITION OF THE CORPSE. PARTICULARLY THE LUNGS
I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT ELEKTRA'S LUNGS WERE FILLED WITH BLOOD. IF THE CORPSE THEY EXAMINED HAD CLEAN LUNGS--
WHO'S "ELEKTRA"?
RIGHT THIS WAY, MRS. VAN DER LEAR.
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO MY PARTNER...
DON'T IGNORE ME, MISTER.
WHO'S "ELEKTRA"?
JUST LEAVE HEATHER. WE'LL TALK LATER.
BECKY-- ABOUT THAT CORPSE...
WERE THE LUNGS FILLED WITH BLOOD OR WEREN'T THEY, BECKY?
ANSWER ME!
IF YOU'D RATHER SPEND YOUR TIME WITH CORPSES THAN WITH ME--
--WHY DON'T YOU JUST DIG ONE UP, MISTER MURDOCK!
I HOPE THE TWO OF YOU ARE VERY HAPPY!

A MIDTOWN SKYSCRAPER, SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
FINISHED?

GOOD.
NOW THAT WE HAVE DISPENSED WITH THE FORMALITIES--
--PERHAPS YOU SHOULD TELL ME WHAT IT IS THAT YOU *WANT*.

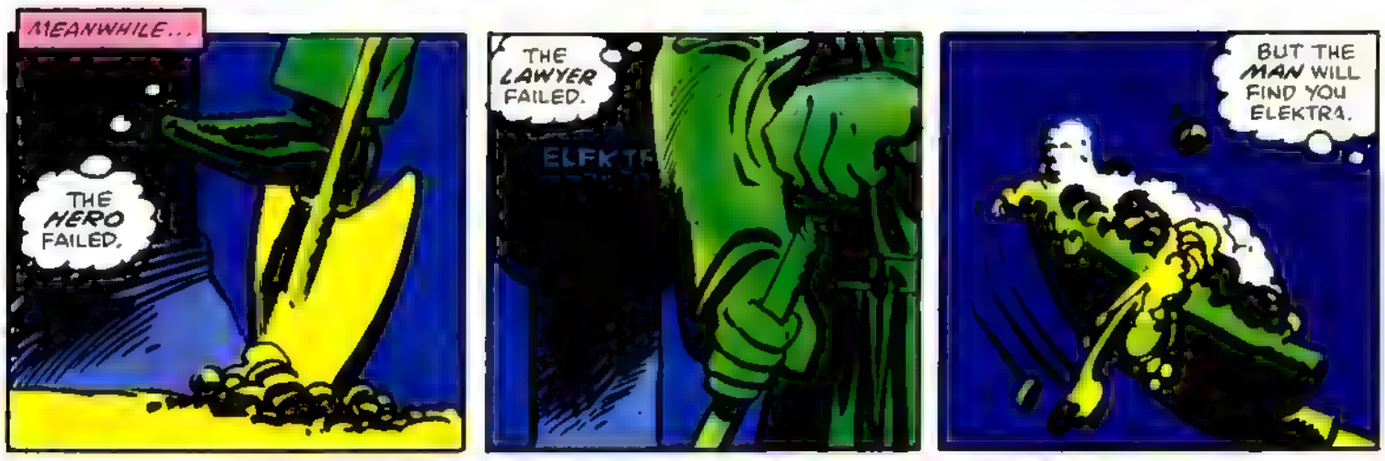
I WANT *ELEKTRA*, KINGPIN.

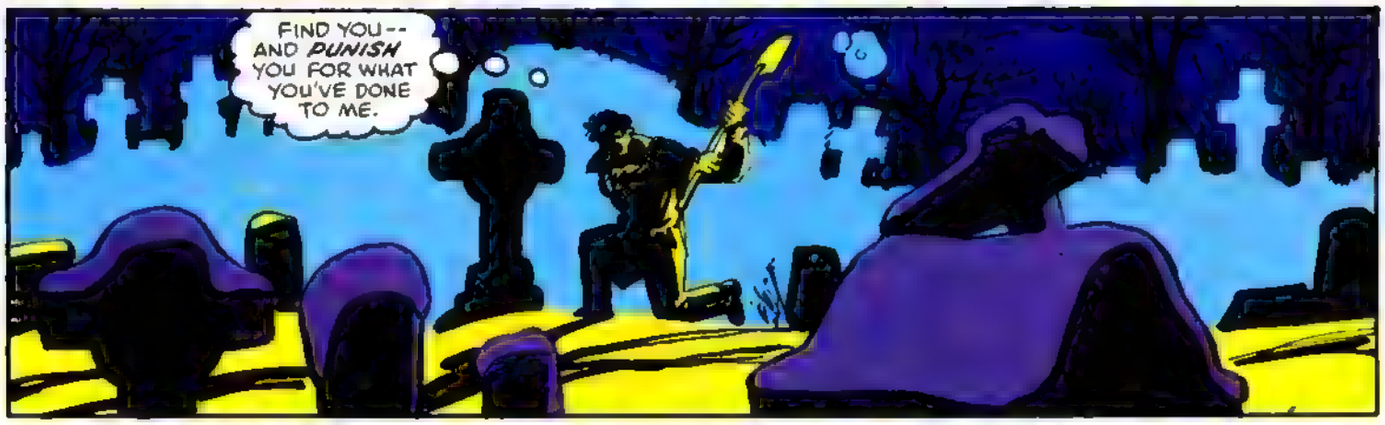
SHE SERVED YOU AS YOUR CHIEF ASSASSIN --HELPED YOU MAINTAIN YOUR CONTROL OVER THE MOBS
AND NOW-- YOU'RE HELPING HER HIDE FROM ME.
HIS *HEARTBEAT*-- IT JUMPED JUST THEN. BUT IS THAT BECAUSE HE'S *AFRAID*--

--OR SIMPLY *ASTONISHED*?
DAREDEVIL
ARE YOU ILL?

I'M FINE. NOW DO YOU TELL ME THE TRUTH--
--BEFORE, OR AFTER I BEAT YOU SENSELESS?

AH! NOW I UNDERSTAND THIS IS SOME ELABORATE *JOKE*, IS IT NOT?
THE DAREDEVIL I KNOW WOULD NEVER RESORT TO UNPROVOKED VIOLENCE, SIMPLY TO TEST A THEORY.
WOULD HE?





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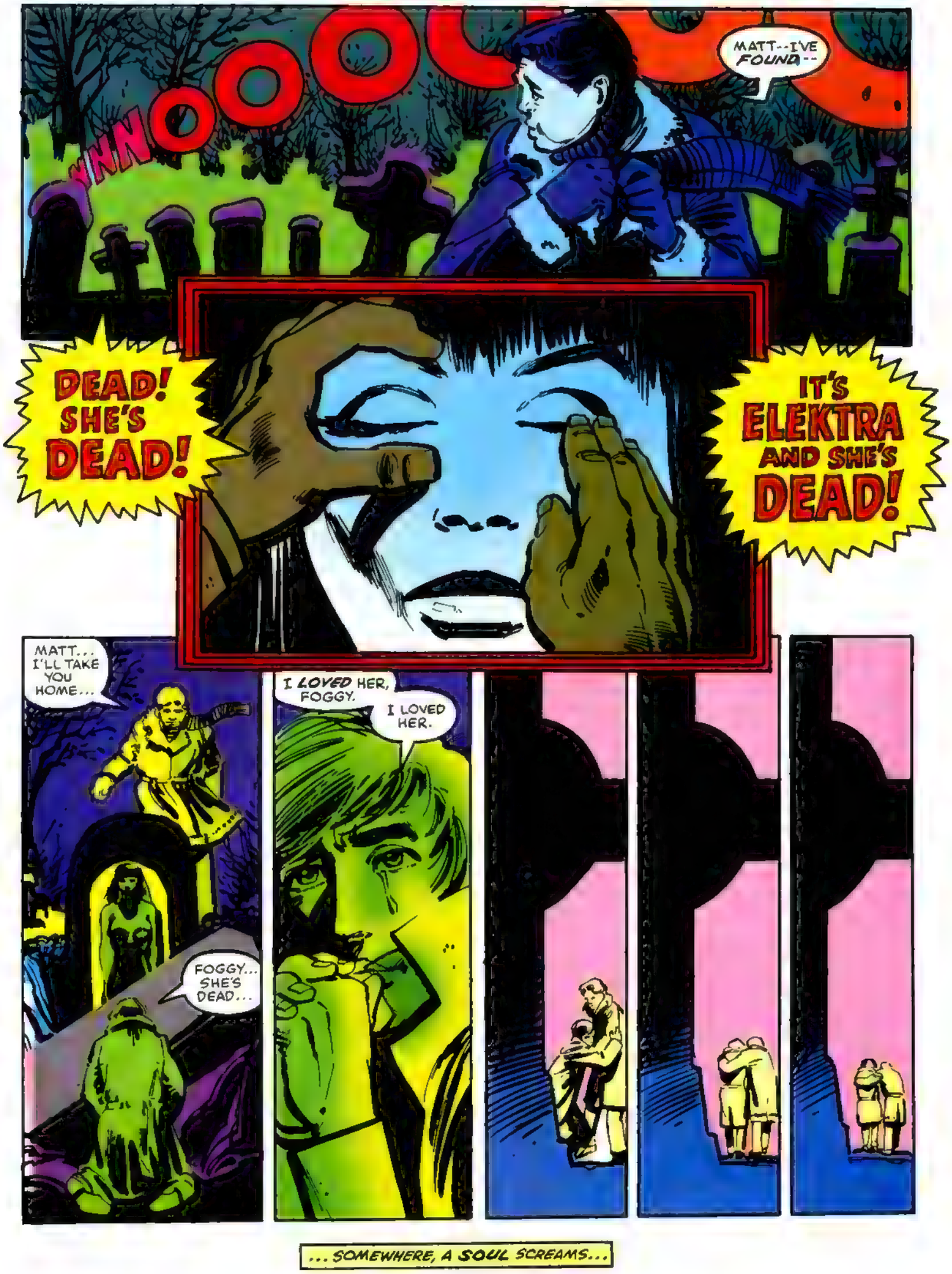

MATT--I'VE FOUND--
NNOOOOO
DEAD! SHE'S DEAD!
IT'S ELEKTRA AND SHE'S DEAD!
MATT... I'LL TAKE YOU HOME...
FOGGY... SHE'S DEAD...
I LOVED HER, FOGGY.
I LOVED HER.
...SOMEWHERE, A SOUL SCREAMS...

THAT IS *HE*.
GET HIM OUT. QUICKLY.
CITY MORGUE
ROOM 202.

HE IS *HEAVY*, EVEN NOW. HE--
SILENCE!
WE ARE *OBSERVED*.

THERE, ABOVE US.
CLINGING TO THE WALL, LIKE SOME HUMAN *SPIDER*...
GOOD GUESS.
BUT NOT JUST *ANY* SPIDER...

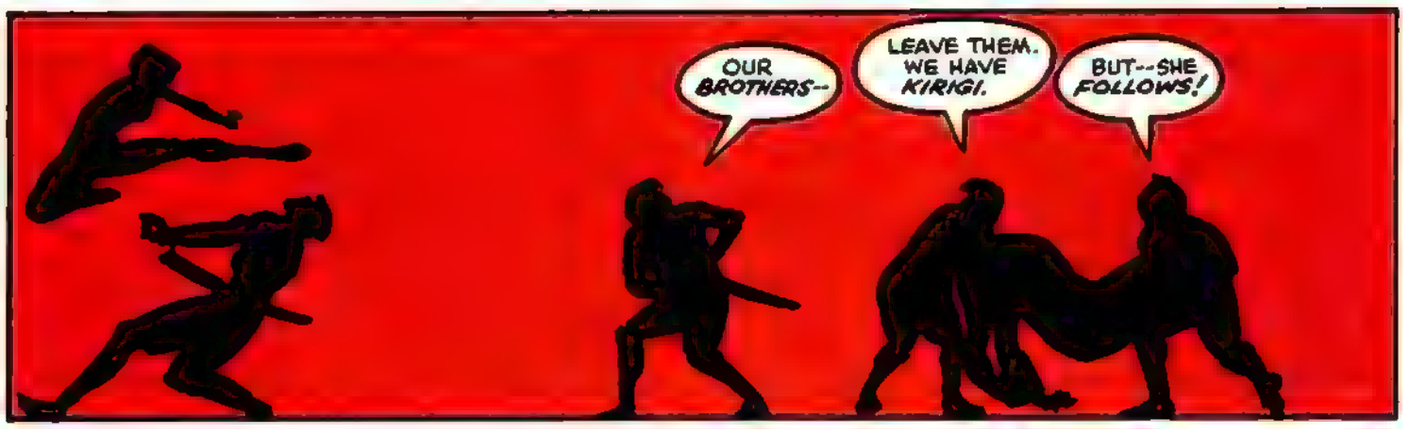
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK

...A BLACK WIDOW.

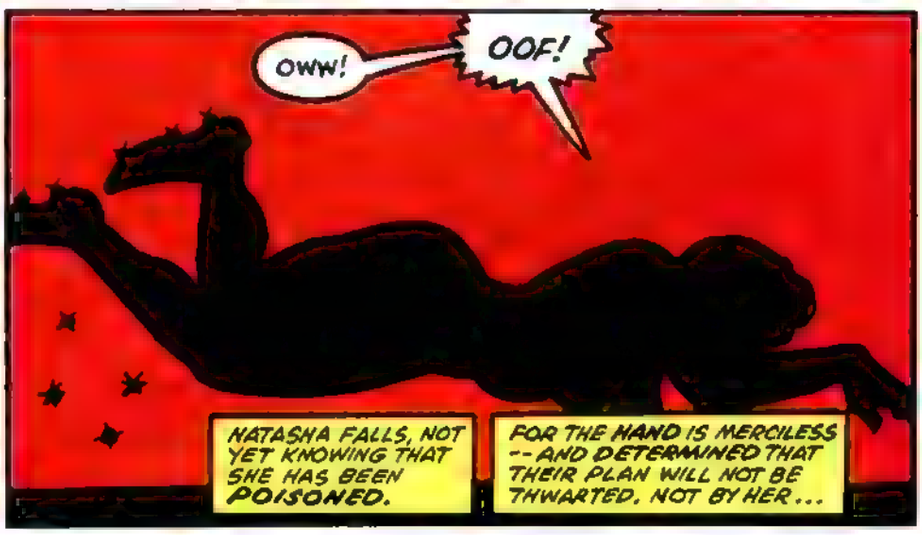
AND YOU GENTS ARE NINJA.
I'VE BEEN ON YOUR TRAIL EVER SINCE YOU LEFT SOUTH AMERICA.

OOF!
MY EMPLOYER--A CERTAIN UNITED NATIONS INTELLIGENCE AGENCY--IS DISTRESSED BY RECENT NINJA ACTIVITY IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES.
I'VE BEEN ASKED TO FIND YOU--AND FOLLOW YOU UNTIL YOU MAKE YOUR MOVE.
GUESS THIS IS IT.

STEALING CORPSES.
NASTY BUSINESS.


OUR BROTHERS--
LEAVE THEM. WE HAVE KIRIGI.
BUT--SHE FOLLOWS!

NOT FOR LONG.

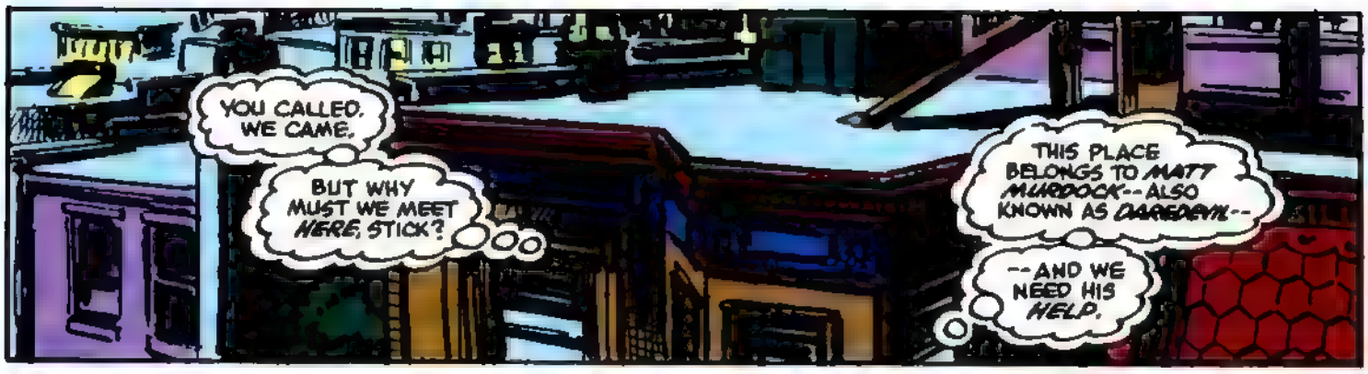

OWW!
OOF!
NATASHA FALLS, NOT YET KNOWING THAT SHE HAS BEEN POISONED.
FOR THE HAND IS MERCILESS -- AND DETERMINED THAT THEIR PLAN WILL NOT BE THWARTED, NOT BY HER...

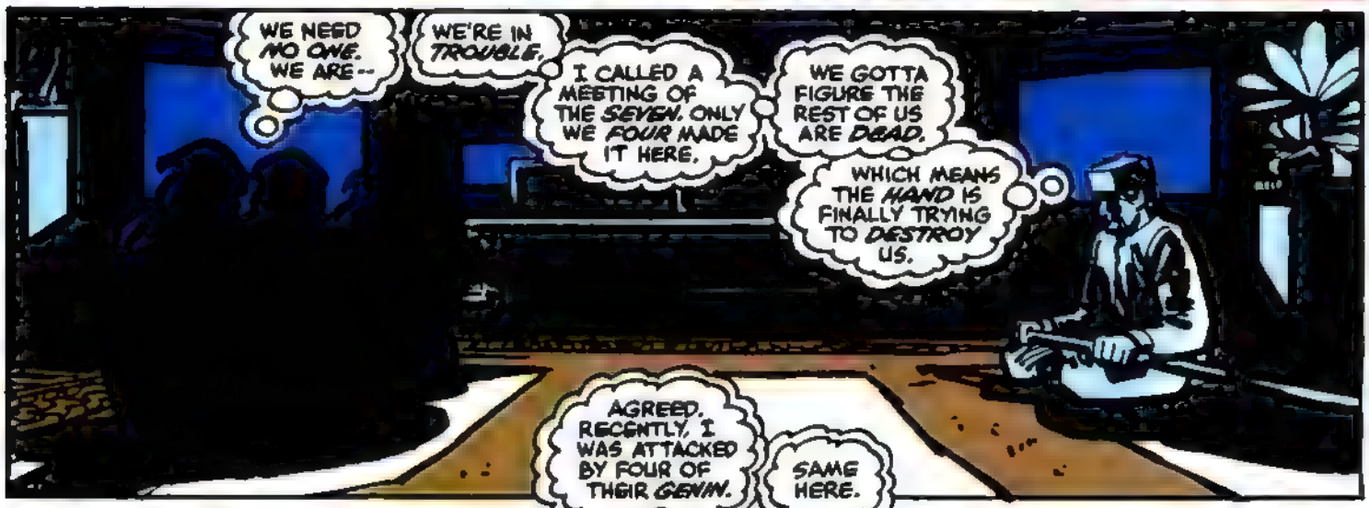
OUR BROTHERS SUCCEEDED. KIRIGI HAS BEEN FOUND.
...AND NOT BY THEIR MOST HATED FOE...

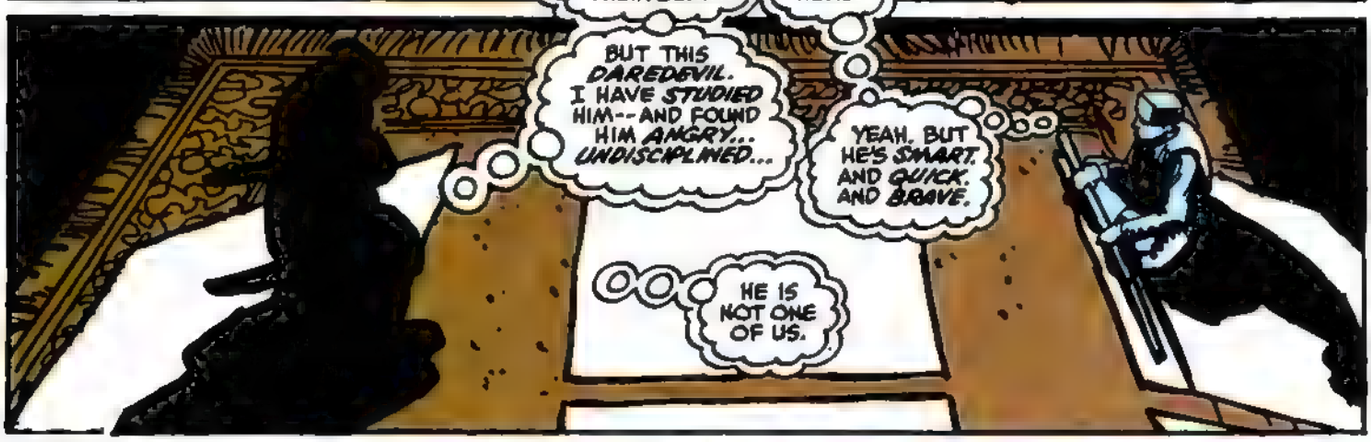
THEN ONLY ONE TASK REMAINS.
TO ELIMINATE ...THAT ONE.

YES. THE ONE CALLED STICK.
SILENTLY, NOW.

THUNK
STICK--A BLIND UNHASHED POOL HUSTLER...
...WHO IS SO VERY MUCH MORE THAN HE SEEMS...
THUNK
WHLKKK
HE WAS TEACHER AND MENTOR TO THE MAN WHO BECAME DAREDEVIL...
...AND TO THE WOMAN ELEKTRA.
HE IS THE SHADOWING, SNAPPING LEADER OF A HIDDEN ORDER OF NOBLE WARRIORS...
...WARRIORS HE KNOWS HE MUST ONCE AGAIN ENLIST...THOUGH IT IS FOR THEIR FINAL BATTLE.
WHUNNG







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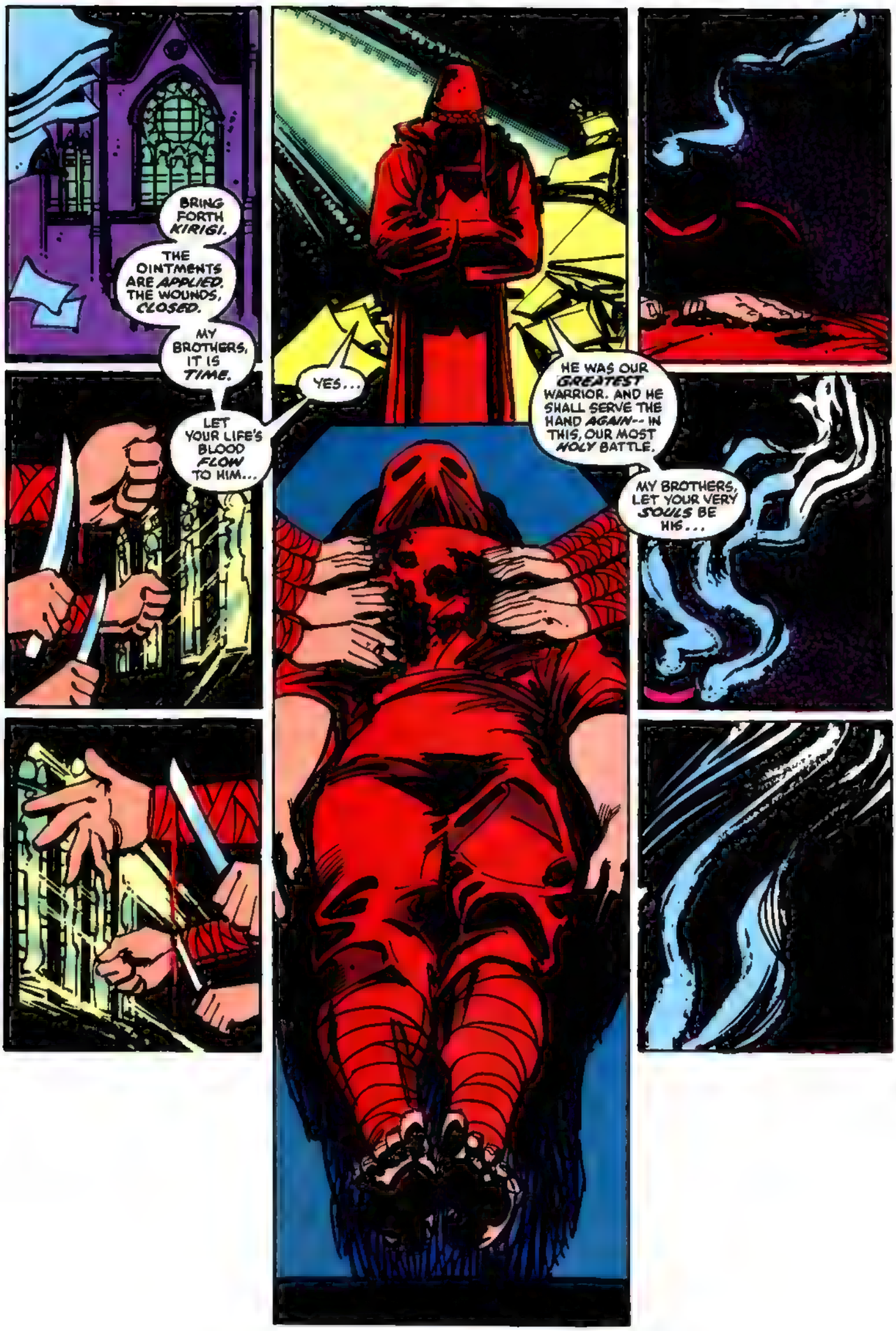
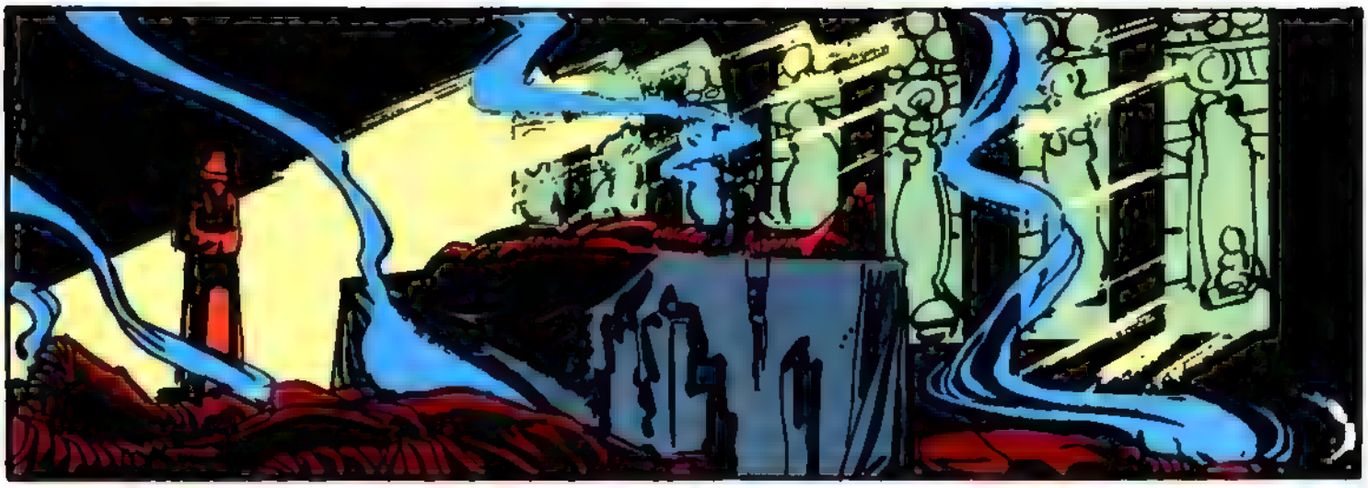
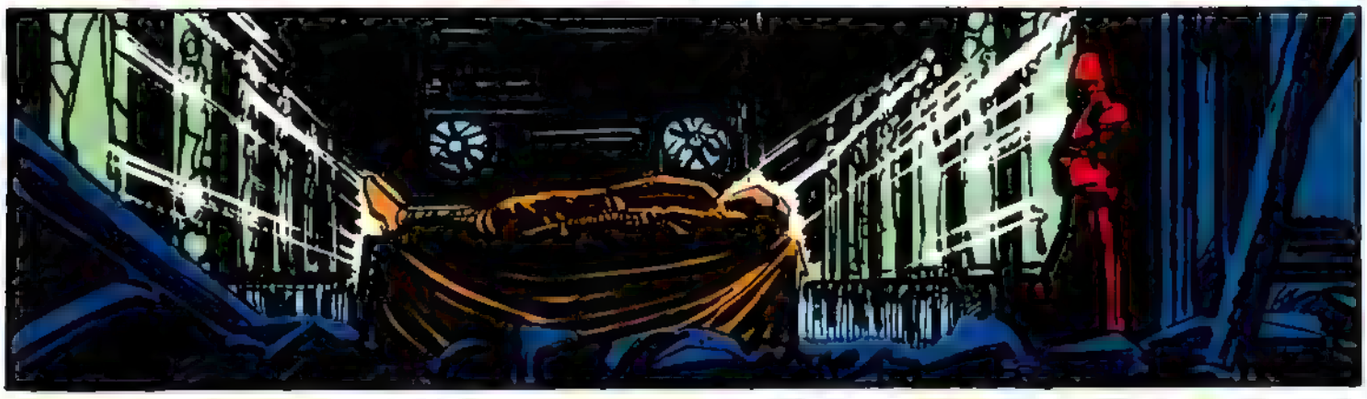
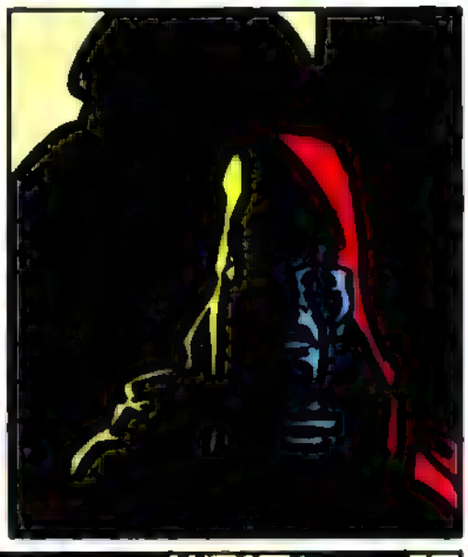

BRING FORTH KIRIGI.
THE OINTMENTS ARE APPLIED. THE WOUNDS, CLOSED.
MY BROTHERS, IT IS TIME.
LET YOUR LIFE'S BLOOD FLOW TO HIM...
YES...
HE WAS OUR GREATEST WARRIOR. AND HE SHALL SERVE THE HAND AGAIN-- IN THIS, OUR MOST HOLY BATTLE.
MY BROTHERS, LET YOUR VERY SOULS BE HIS...







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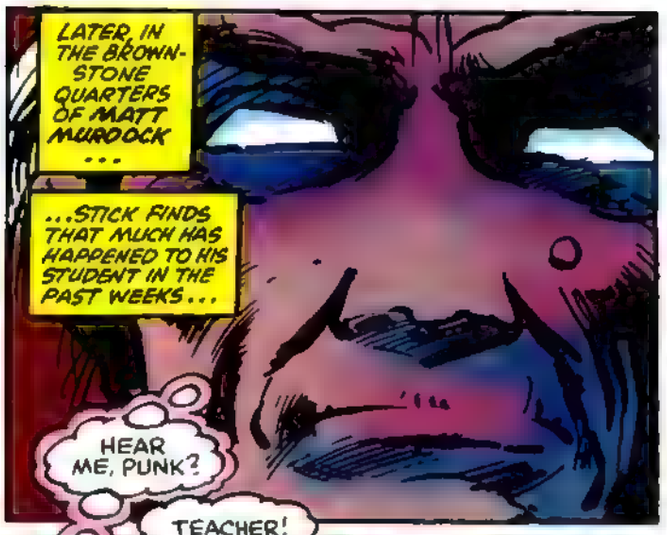
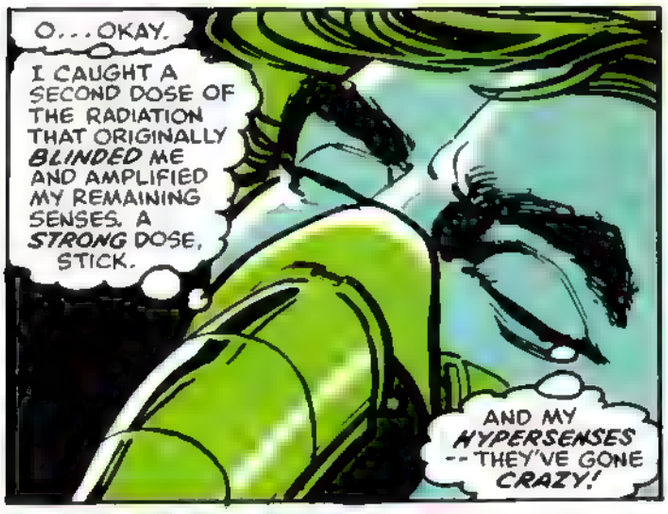
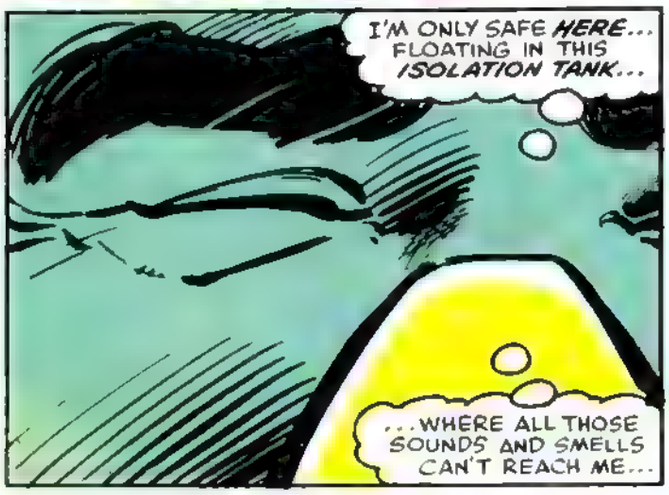
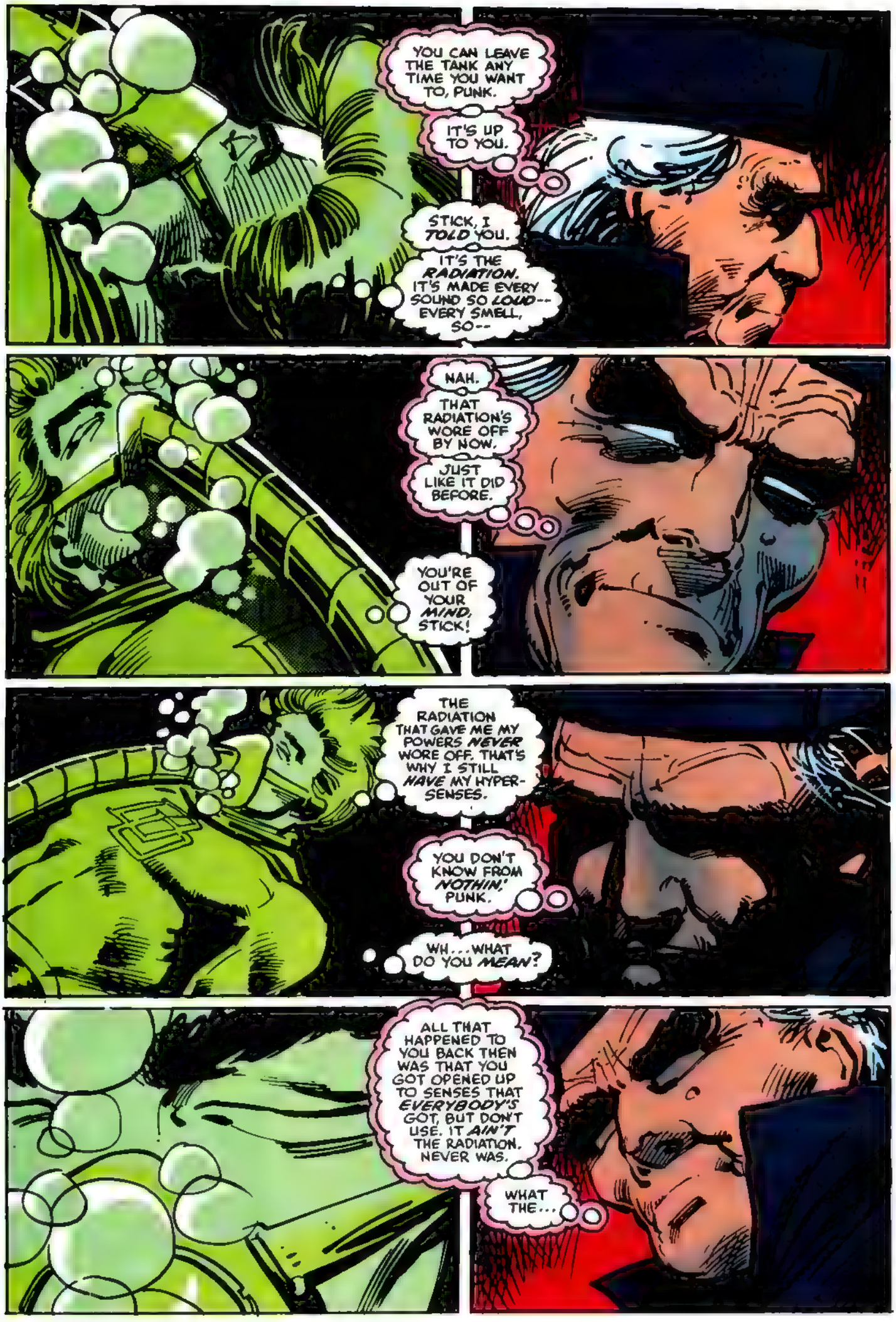

LATER IN THE BROWNSTONE QUARTERS OF MATT MURDOCK ...
...STICK FINDS THAT MUCH HAS HAPPENED TO HIS STUDENT IN THE PAST WEEKS...
HEAR ME, PUNK?

TEACHER!
BUT HOW--
NO QUESTIONS.
JUST TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU THIS TIME.
BUT--
JUST THINK IT. I'LL HEAR YOU.

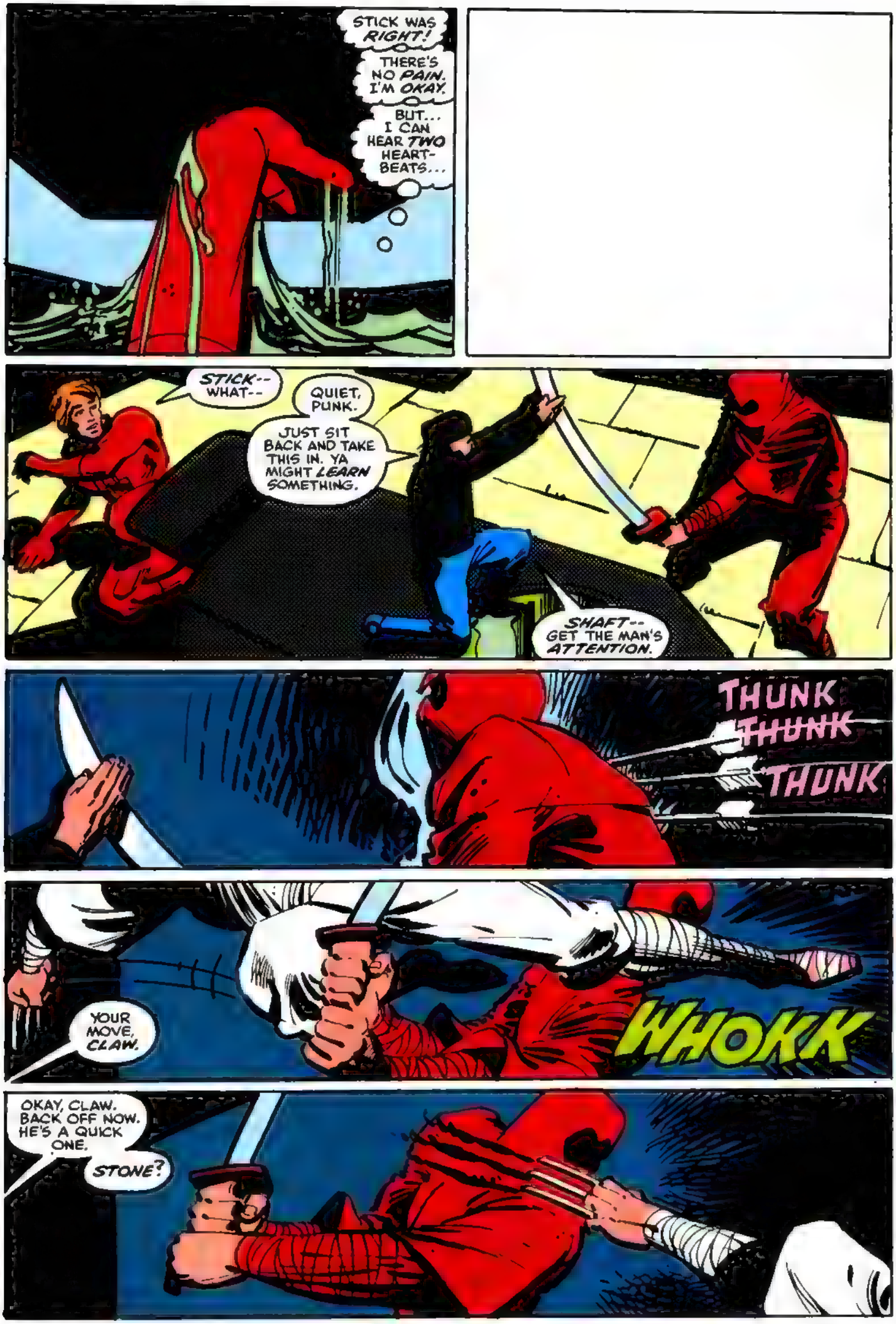

O...OKAY.
I CAUGHT A SECOND DOSE OF THE RADIATION THAT ORIGINALLY BLINDED ME AND AMPLIFIED MY REMAINING SENSES. A STRONG DOSE, STICK.
AND MY HYPERSENSES --THEY'VE GONE CRAZY!

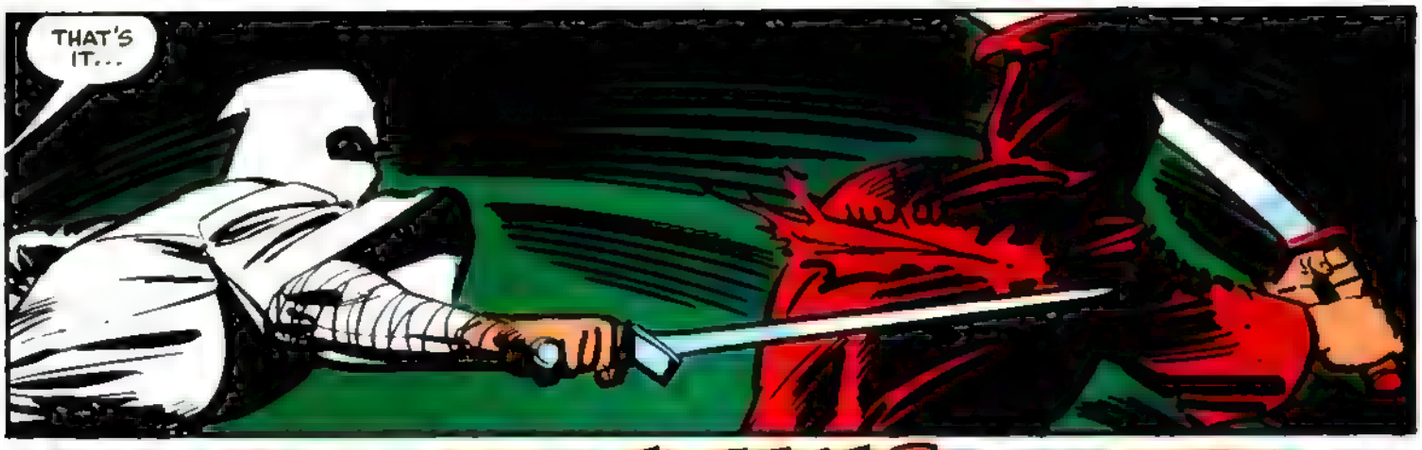

I'M ONLY SAFE HERE... FLOATING IN THIS ISOLATION TANK...
...WHERE ALL THOSE SOUNDS AND SMELLS CAN'T REACH ME...

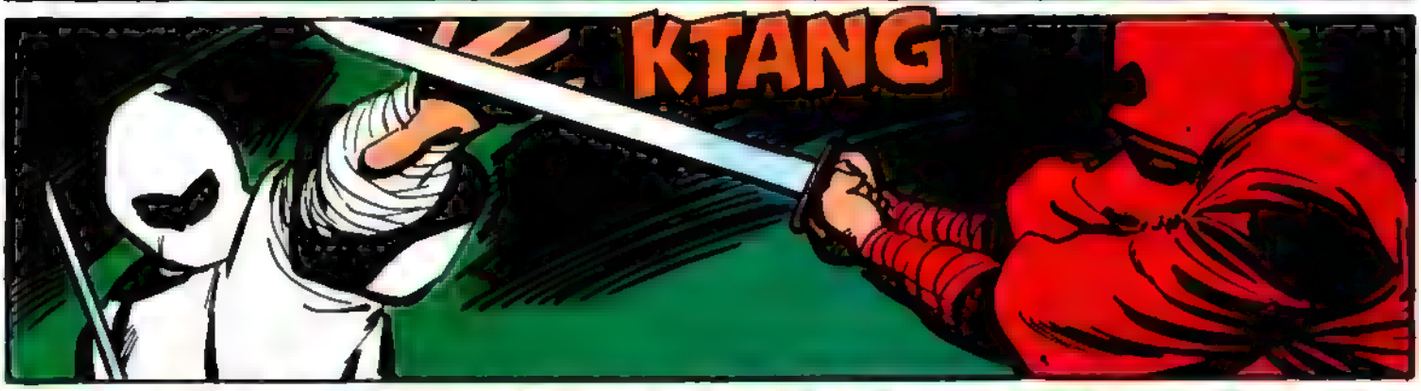
HOW LONG YOU PLANNIN' ON LYIN' IN THERE, PUNK?

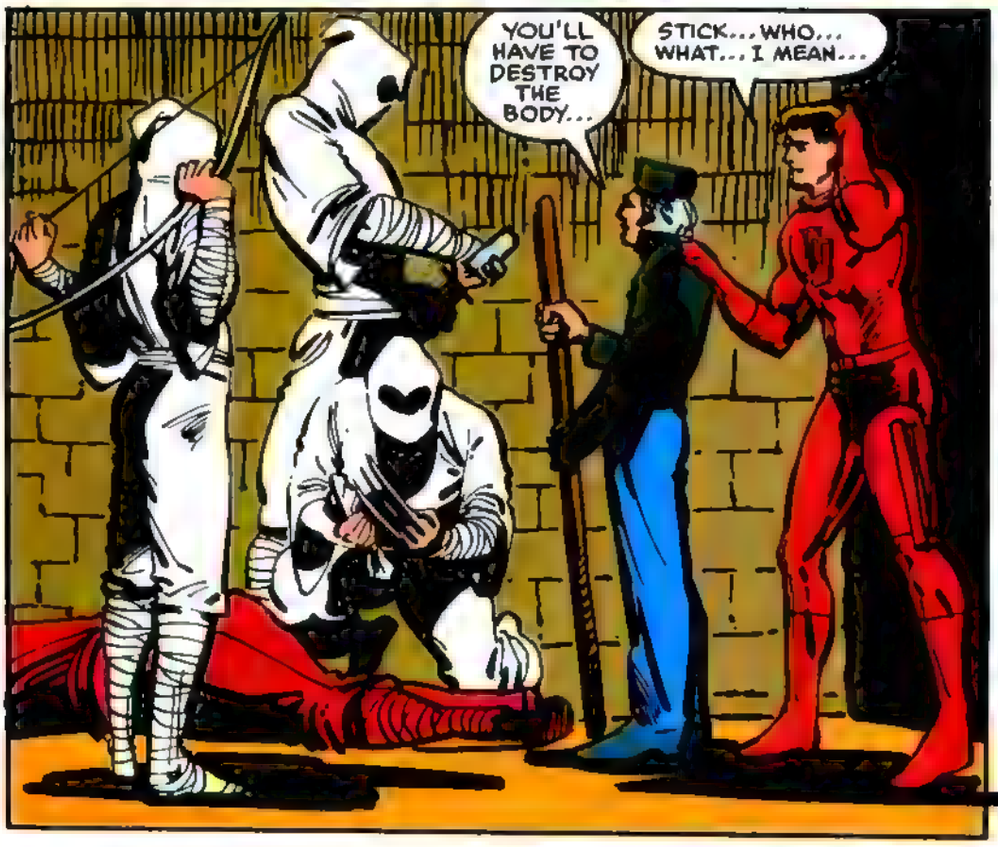

YOU CAN LEAVE THE TANK ANY TIME YOU WANT TO, PUNK.
IT'S UP TO YOU.
STICK, I TOLD YOU.
IT'S THE RADIATION. IT'S MADE EVERY SOUND SO LOUD-- EVERY SMELL, SO--
NAH.
THAT RADIATION'S WORE OFF BY NOW.
JUST LIKE IT DID BEFORE.
YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND, STICK!
THE RADIATION THAT GAVE ME MY POWERS NEVER WORE OFF. THAT'S WHY I STILL HAVE MY HYPER-SENSES.
YOU DON'T KNOW FROM NOTHIN', PUNK.
WH...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
ALL THAT HAPPENED TO YOU BACK THEN WAS THAT YOU GOT OPENED UP TO SENSES THAT EVERYBODY'S GOT, BUT DON'T USE. IT AIN'T THE RADIATION. NEVER WAS.
WHAT THE...

STICK!
WHERE'D YOU GO? STICK--?
HE'S GONE!
HE WOULDN'T HAVE CUT ME OFF, JUST LIKE THAT. HE WASN'T FINISHED EXPLAINING...
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM.
I CAN'T GO OUT THERE. I WON'T.
IT HURTS OUT THERE. SO NOISY... I...
I...
I'M SCARED.


STICK WAS RIGHT!
THERE'S NO PAIN. I'M OKAY.
BUT... I CAN HEAR TWO HEART-BEATS...
STICK-- WHAT--
QUIET, PUNK.
JUST SIT BACK AND TAKE THIS IN. YA MIGHT LEARN SOMETHING.
SHAFT-- GET THE MAN'S ATTENTION.
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
YOUR MOVE, CLAW.
WHOKK
OKAY, CLAW. BACK OFF NOW. HE'S A QUICK ONE.
STONE?

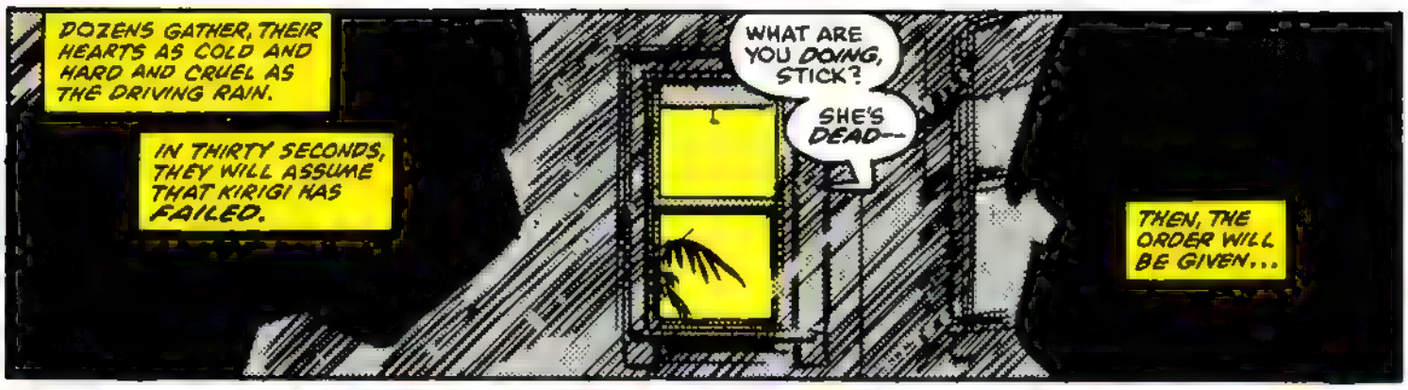

THAT'S IT...

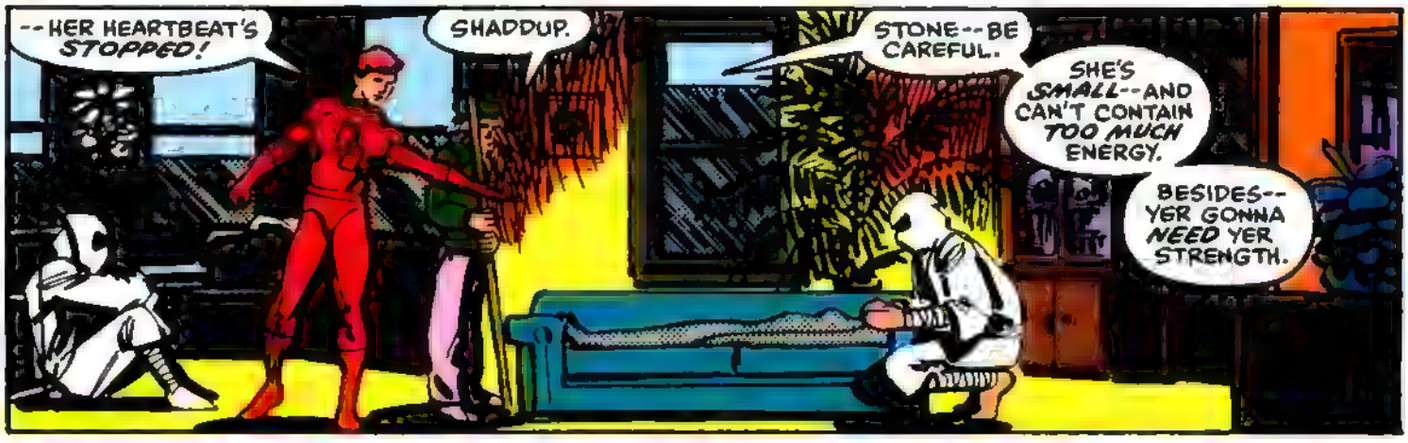

KTANG


YOU'LL HAVE TO DESTROY THE BODY...
STICK... WHO... WHAT... I MEAN...

GUESS I'D BETTER EXPLAIN...
MATT--!
NOW WHAT?

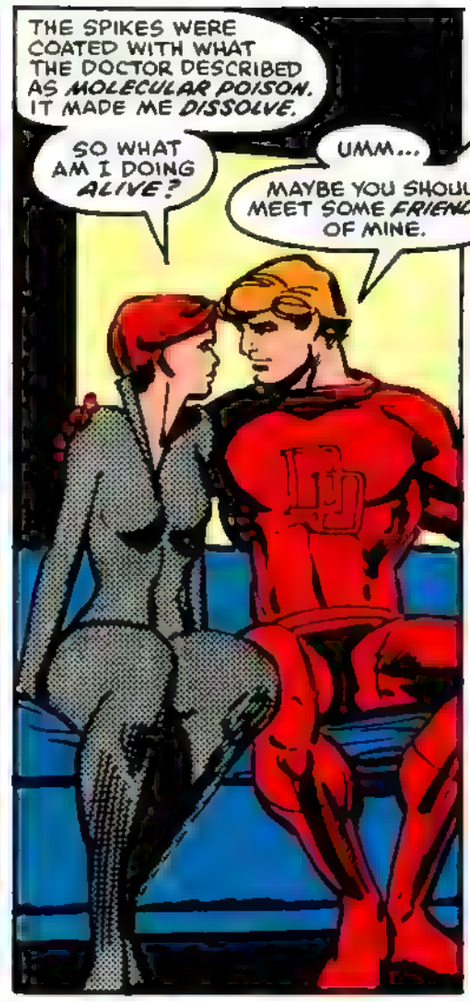
MATT...


DOZENS GATHER, THEIR HEARTS AS COLD AND HARD AND CRUEL AS THE DRIVING RAIN.
IN THIRTY SECONDS, THEY WILL ASSUME THAT KIRIGI HAS FAILED.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, STICK?
SHE'S DEAD--
THEN, THE ORDER WILL BE GIVEN...


--HER HEARTBEAT'S STOPPED!
SHADDUP.
STONE--BE CAREFUL.
SHE'S SMALL--AND CAN'T CONTAIN TOO MUCH ENERGY.
BESIDES--YER GONNA NEED YER STRENGTH.

MATT!...

I'M ALIVE ...HOW...?
MATT--HOW--
I'M NOT SURE, NATASHA. BUT I DO KNOW I'M NOT THE ONE TO THANK.
SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME HOW YOU GOT YOURSELF KILLED.



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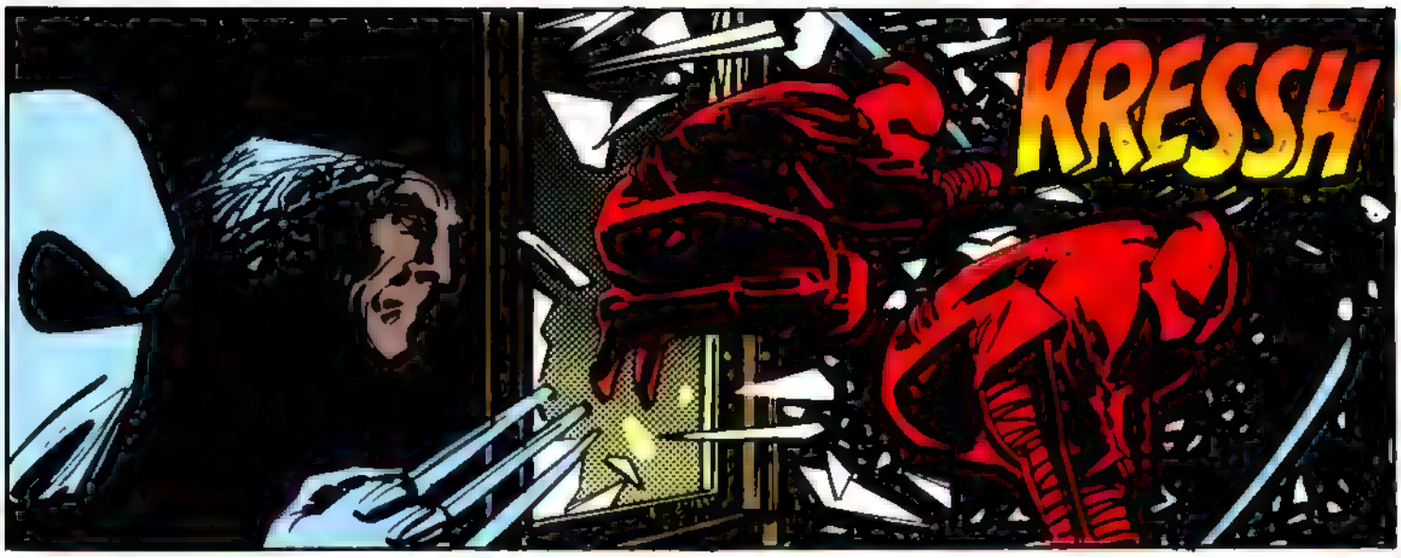
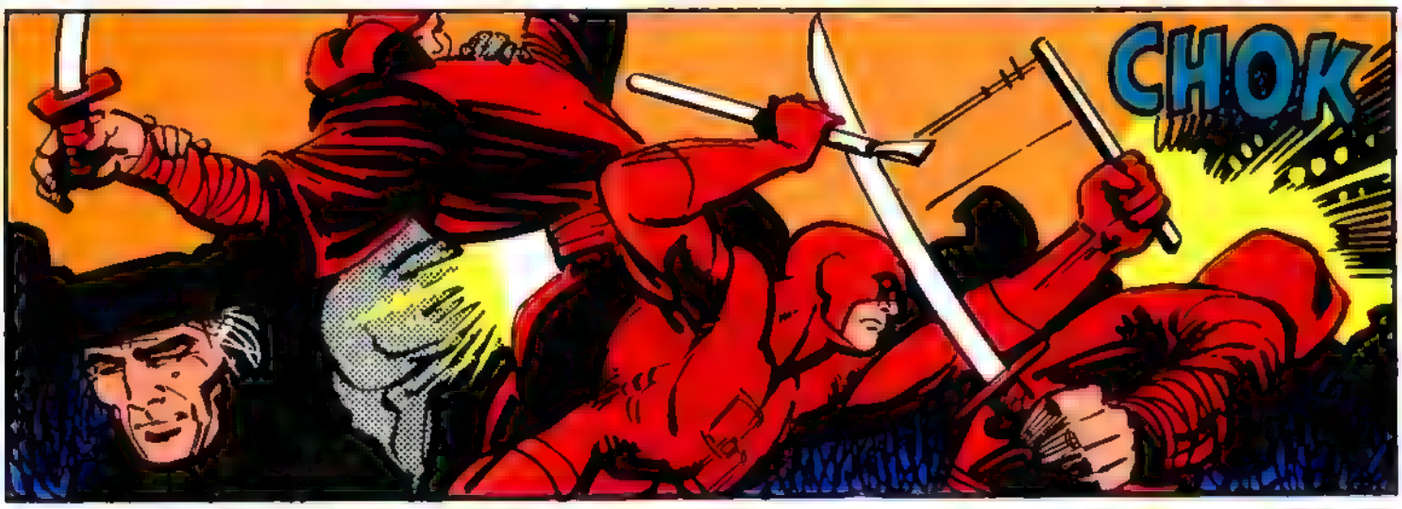
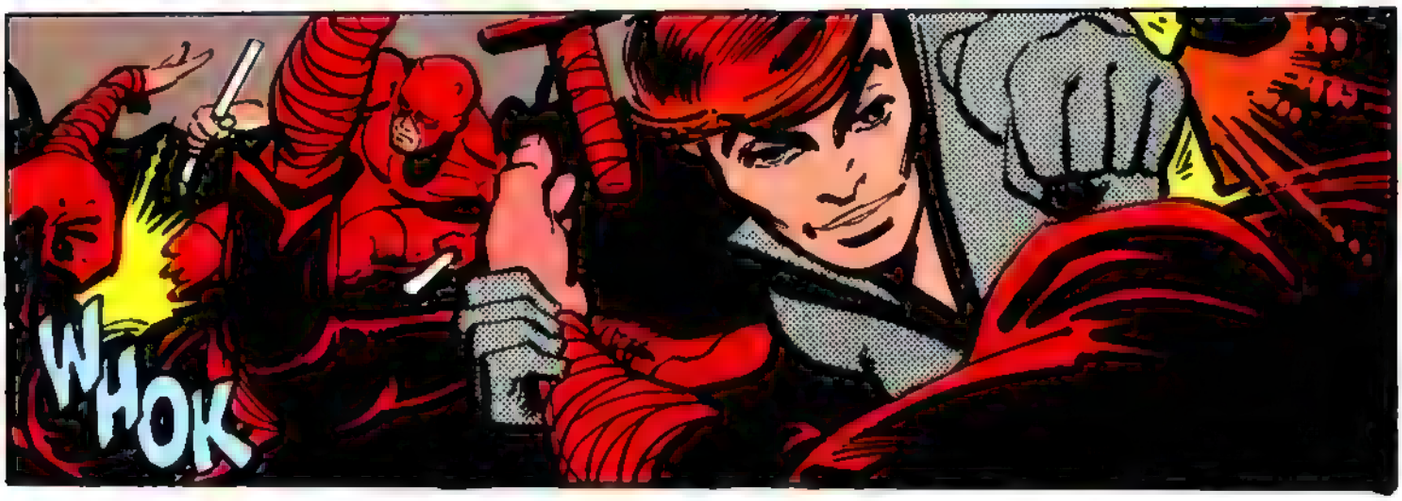

KRESSH

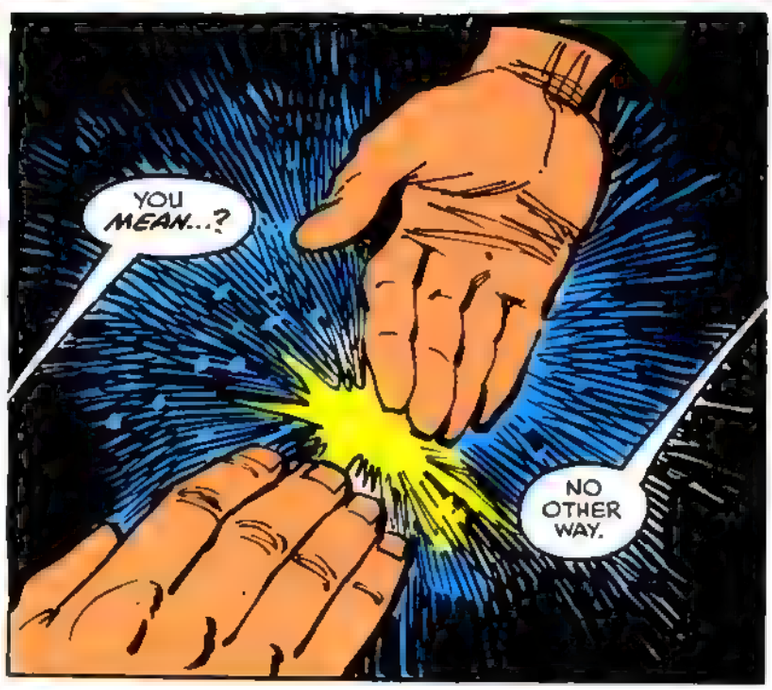

CHOK

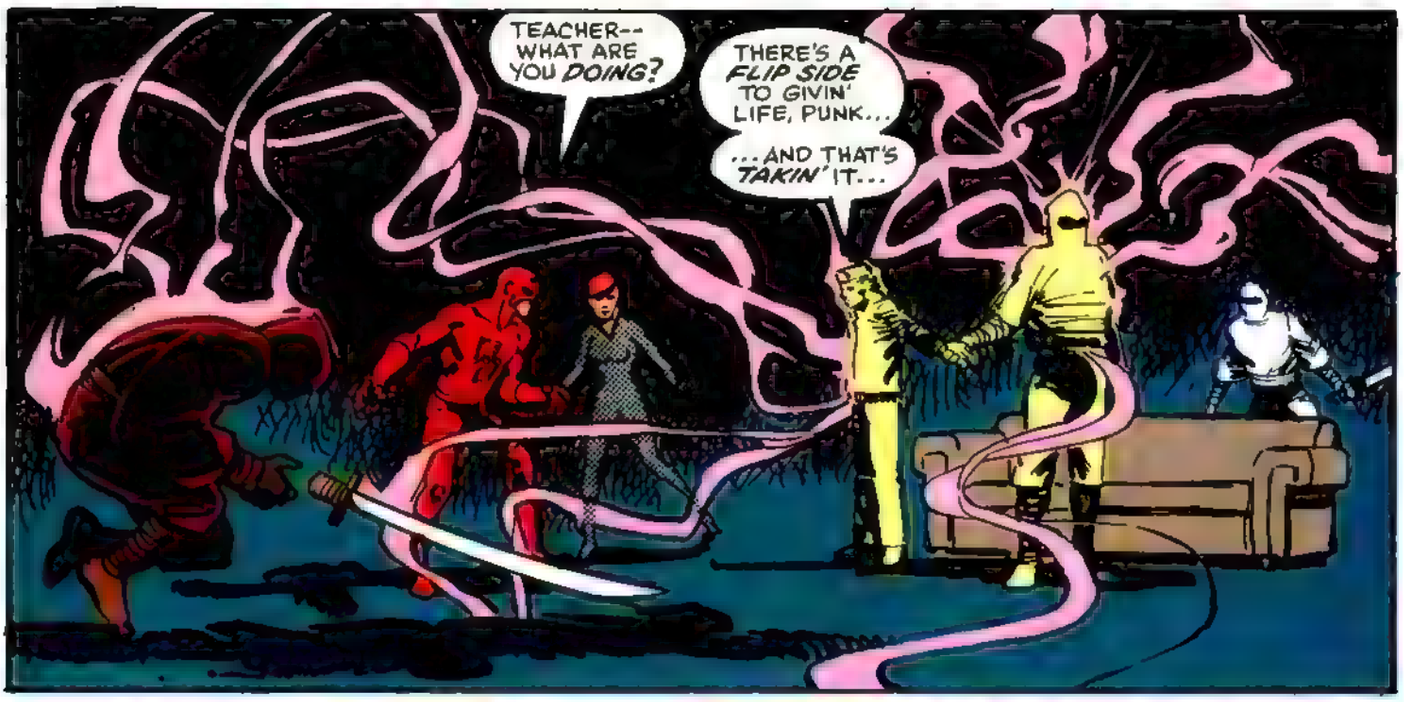

WHOK

CLAW!

STICK-- CLAW HAS FALLEN.
YEAH...
ONLY A MATTER OF TIME...
WHUK

THEY'RE WEARIN' US DOWN, SHAFT. WE'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD.
ONLY ONE THING WE CAN DO.

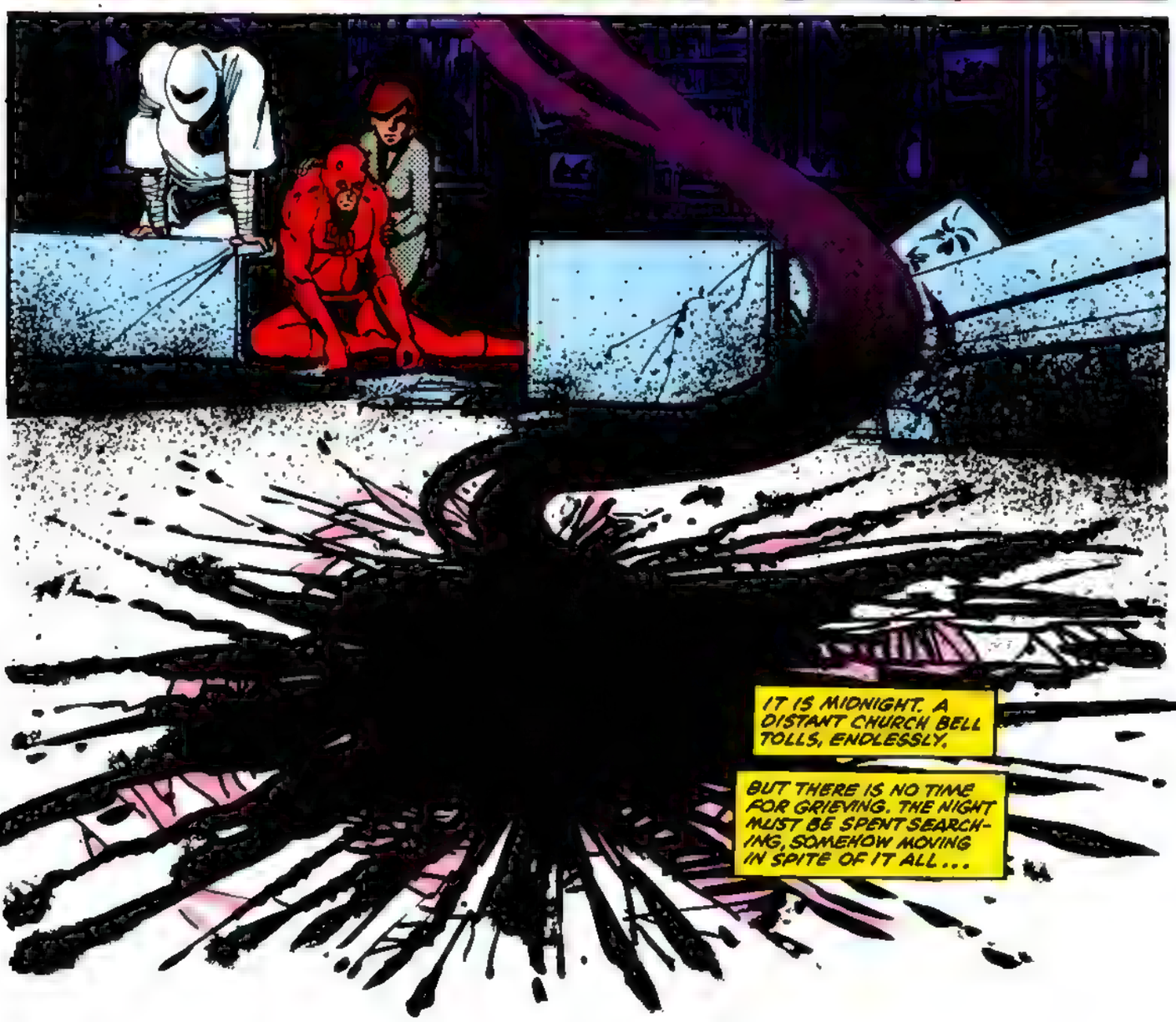

YOU MEAN...?
NO OTHER WAY.

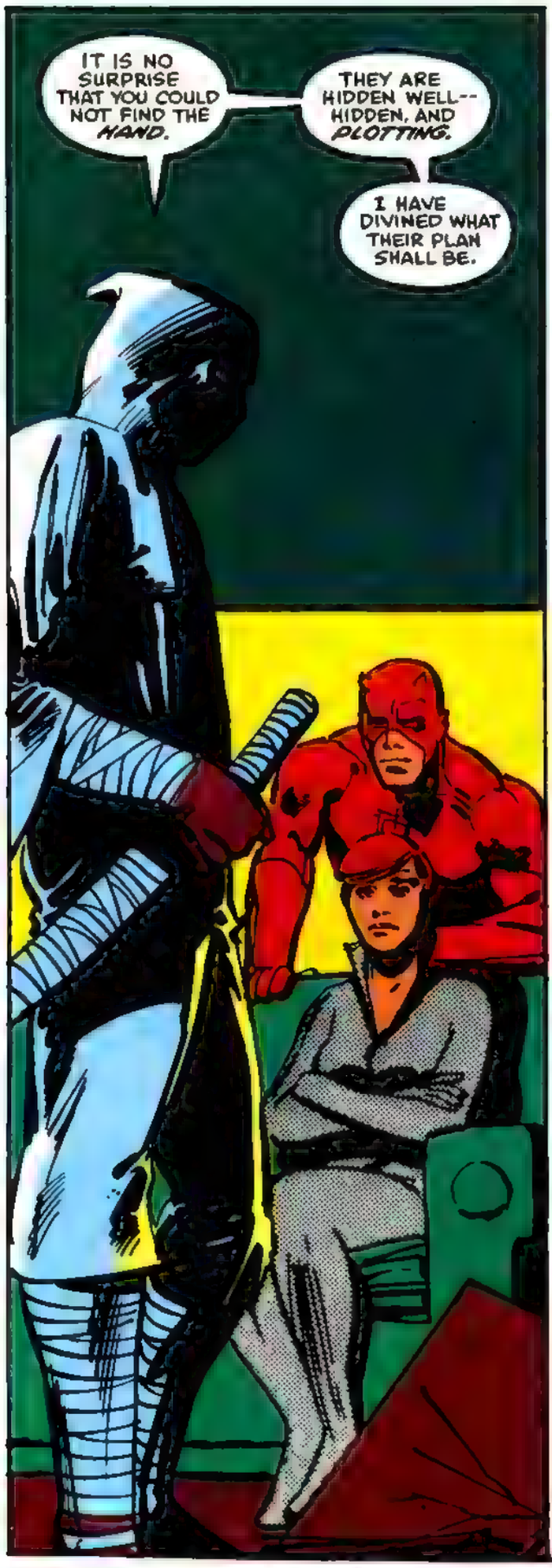

TEACHER-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THERE'S A FLIP SIDE TO GIVIN' LIFE, PUNK...
...AND THAT'S TAKIN' IT...

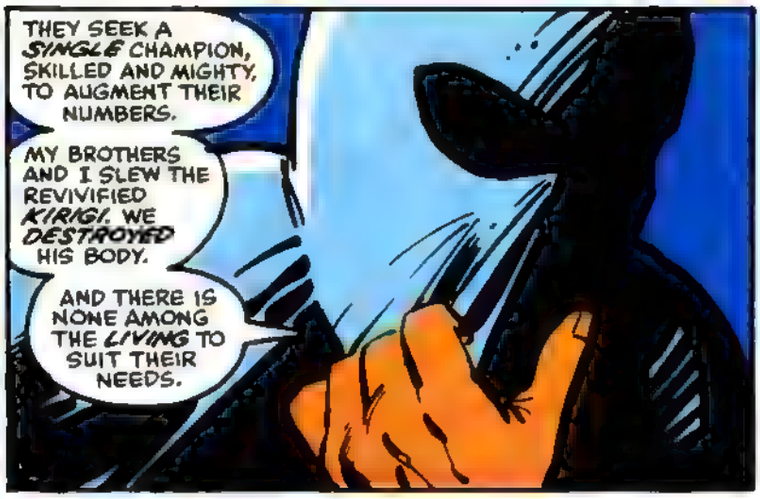
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF... MOVIN' ENERGY AROUND...

MASTER --LET ME JOIN YOU IN THIS!
NO.
THE PUNK... THE GIRL ...SHIELD THEM, STONE...
TEACH THEM... WHAT YOU CAN...

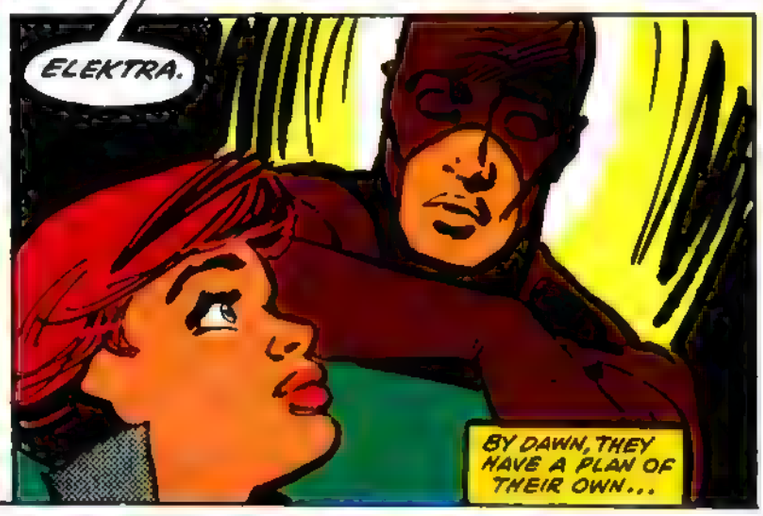
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM!
BUT WHAT--
THE ENERGIES--OF TWO SCORE HUMAN SOULS...
COULD ANY MAN CONTAIN THEM?

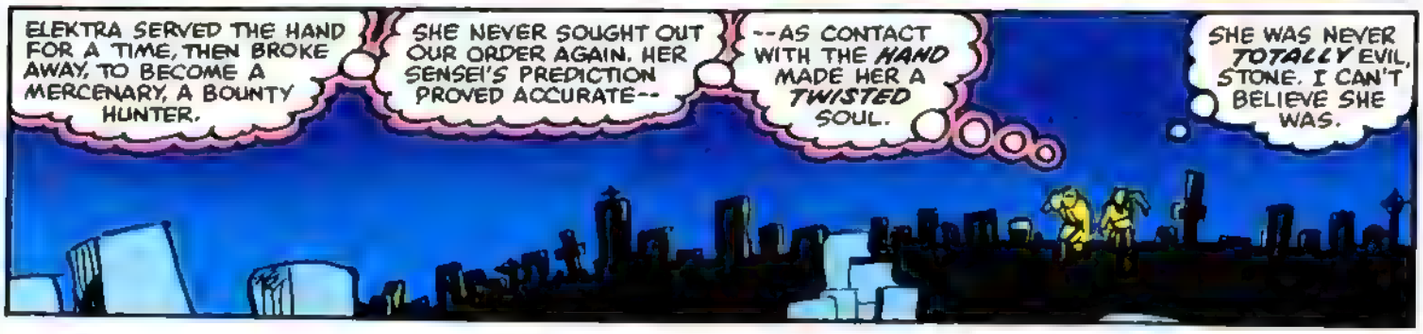

IT IS MIDNIGHT. A DISTANT CHURCH BELL TOLLS, ENDLESSLY.
BUT THERE IS NO TIME FOR GRIEVING. THE NIGHT MUST BE SPENT SEARCHING, SOMEHOW MOVING IN SPITE OF IT ALL...

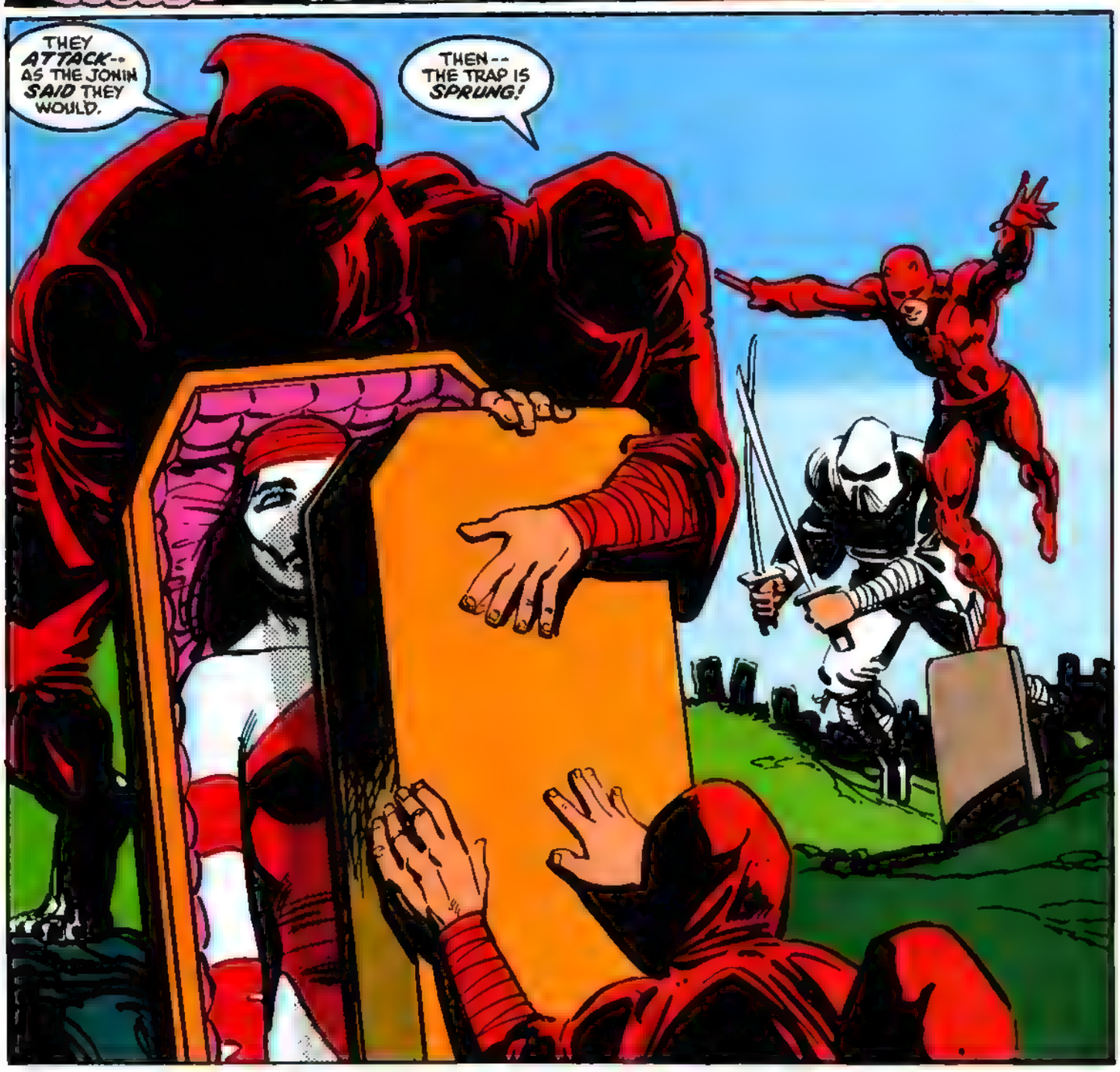

IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT YOU COULD NOT FIND THE HAND.
THEY ARE HIDDEN WELL-- HIDDEN, AND PLOTTING.
I HAVE DIVINED WHAT THEIR PLAN SHALL BE.


THEY SEEK A SINGLE CHAMPION, SKILLED AND MIGHTY, TO AUGMENT THEIR NUMBERS.
MY BROTHERS AND I SLEW THE REVIVIFIED KIRIGI. WE DESTROYED HIS BODY.
AND THERE IS NONE AMONG THE LIVING TO SUIT THEIR NEEDS.

THEY MUST RAISE ANOTHER FROM THE DEAD.
AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, THERE IS A FALLEN MEMBER OF THE HAND WHOSE BODY RESTS IN THIS VERY CITY.
A MIGHTY WARRIOR INDEED. A WOMAN.


ELEKTRA.
BY DAWN, THEY HAVE A PLAN OF THEIR OWN...


ELEKTRA SERVED THE HAND FOR A TIME, THEN BROKE AWAY, TO BECOME A MERCENARY, A BOUNTY HUNTER.
SHE NEVER SOUGHT OUT OUR ORDER AGAIN. HER SENSEI'S PREDICTION PROVED ACCURATE--
--AS CONTACT WITH THE HAND MADE HER A TWISTED SOUL.
SHE WAS NEVER TOTALLY EVIL, STONE. I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE WAS.



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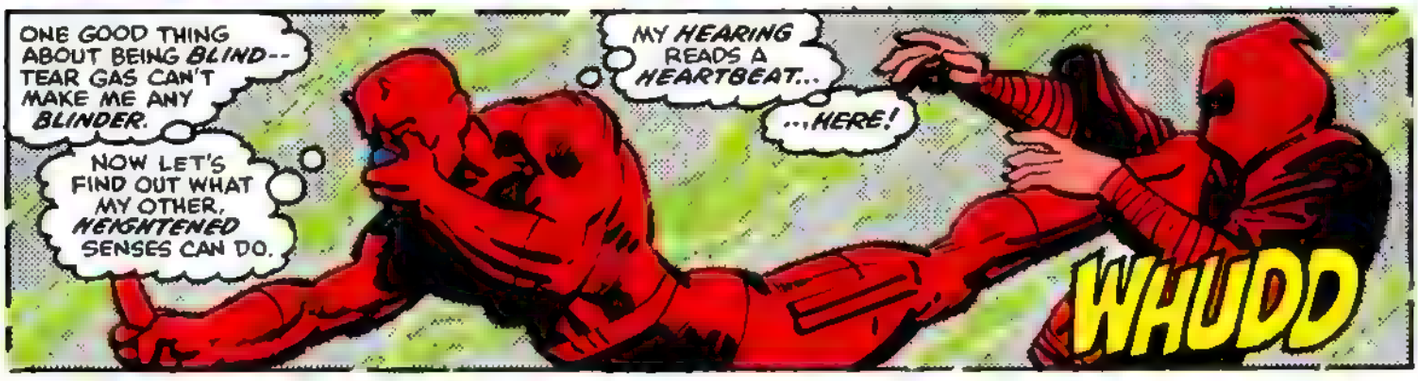
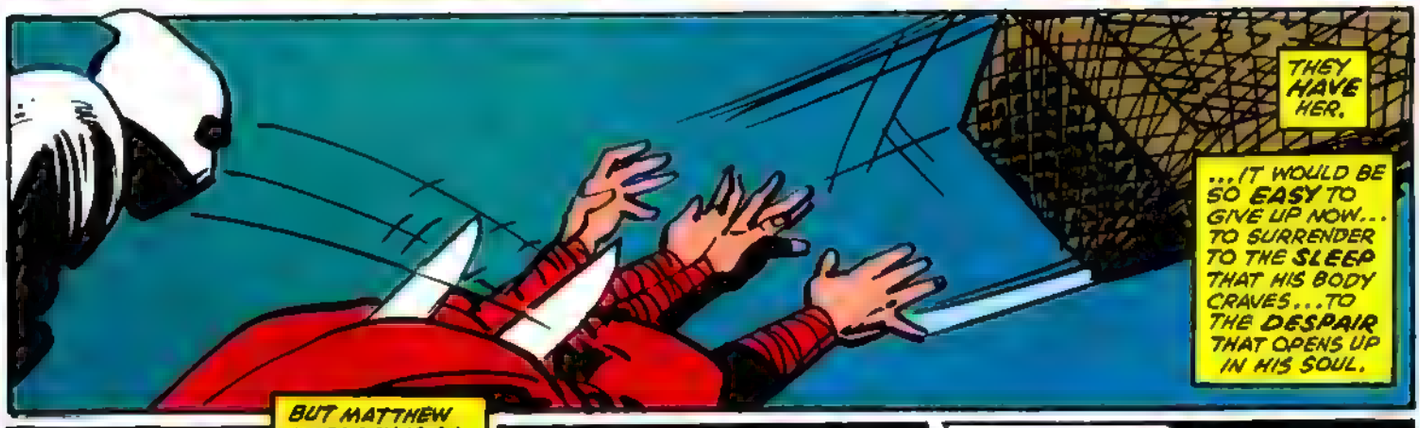
WE HAVE THEM! THEY--
DO IT, NATASHA!

HAVE FUN, BOYS!


ONE GOOD THING ABOUT BEING BLIND-- TEAR GAS CAN'T MAKE ME ANY BLINDER.
NOW LET'S FIND OUT WHAT MY OTHER, HEIGHTENED SENSES CAN DO.
MY HEARING READS A HEARTBEAT...
...HERE!
WHUDD

WHUP WHUP HU
THAT SOUND-- WHAT...

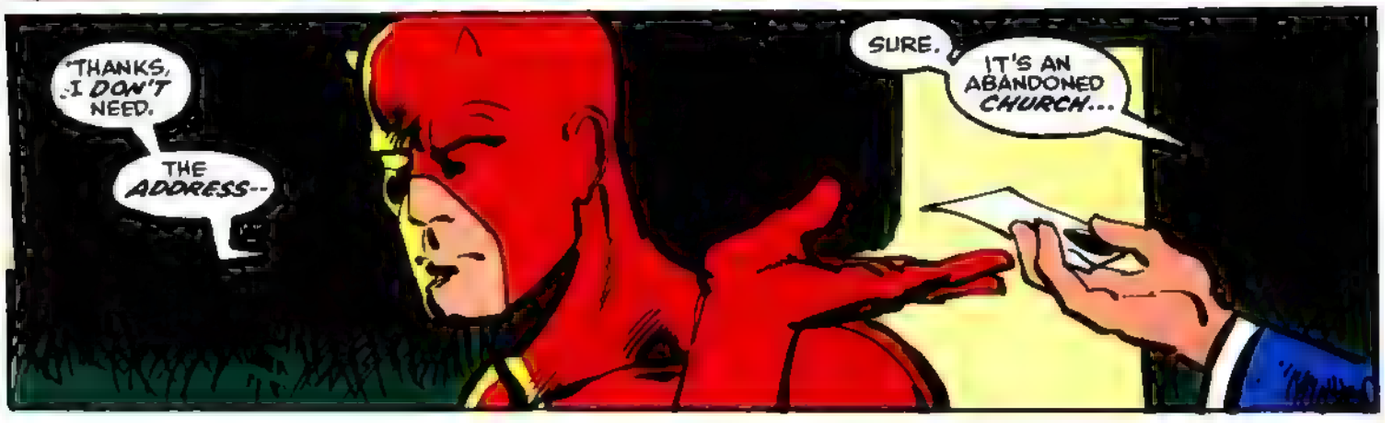
IT'S A HELICOPTER! THAT'S HOW THEY'RE MOVING THE BODY!
IF STONE CAN'T CATCH UP WITH THEM, BEFORE THEY--


THEY HAVE HER.
...IT WOULD BE SO EASY TO GIVE UP NOW... TO SURRENDER TO THE SLEEP THAT HIS BODY CRAVES...TO THE DESPAIR THAT OPENS UP IN HIS SOUL.

BUT MATTHEW MURDOCK IS AN EXTRAORDINARY MAN...
...ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE A BIT UNSTABLE, DAREDEVIL.
IT IS SAD TO SEE YOU GO INSANE. YOU WERE AN ENTERTAINING FOE.
I'M SERIOUS, KINGPIN.

IF I CAN'T FIND THE HIDEOUT OF THE HAND-- AND SOON-- ELEKTRA WILL BE BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE!

PREPOSTEROUS.
BUT EVEN IF IT WERE SO-- WHO AM I TO WISH OTHERWISE?
I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FILL HER POSITION IN MY ORGANIZATION EVER SINCE SHE DIED.



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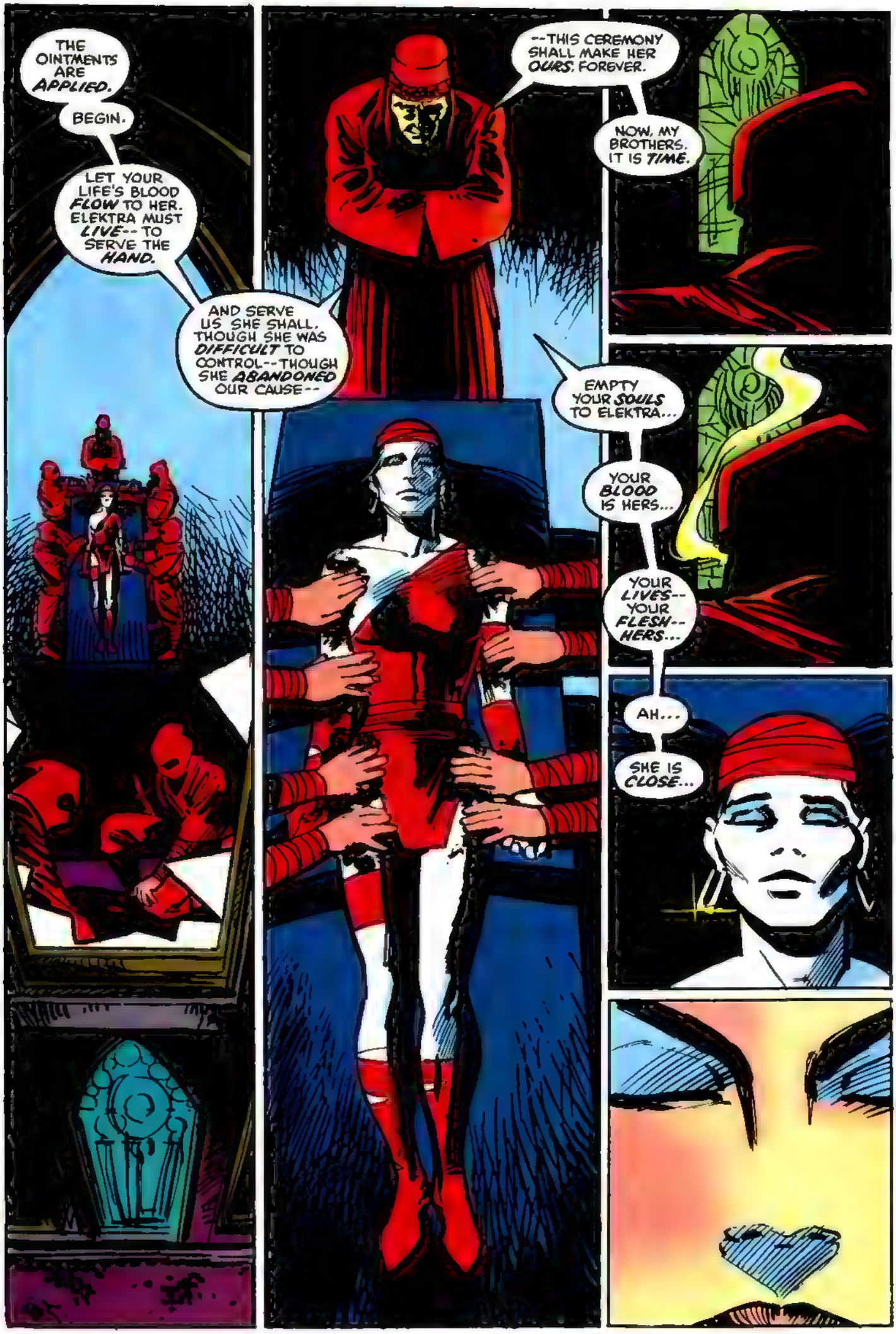
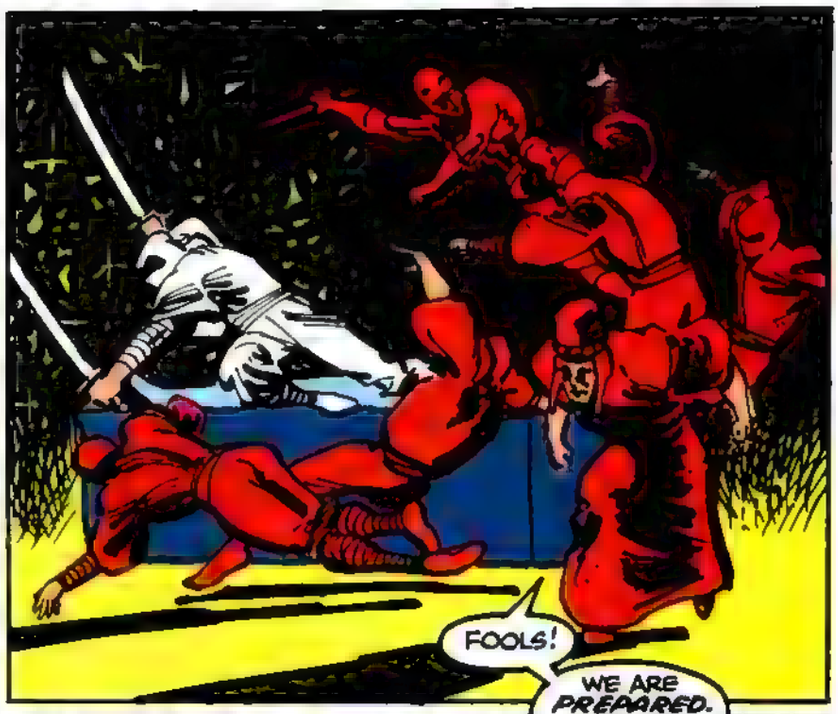
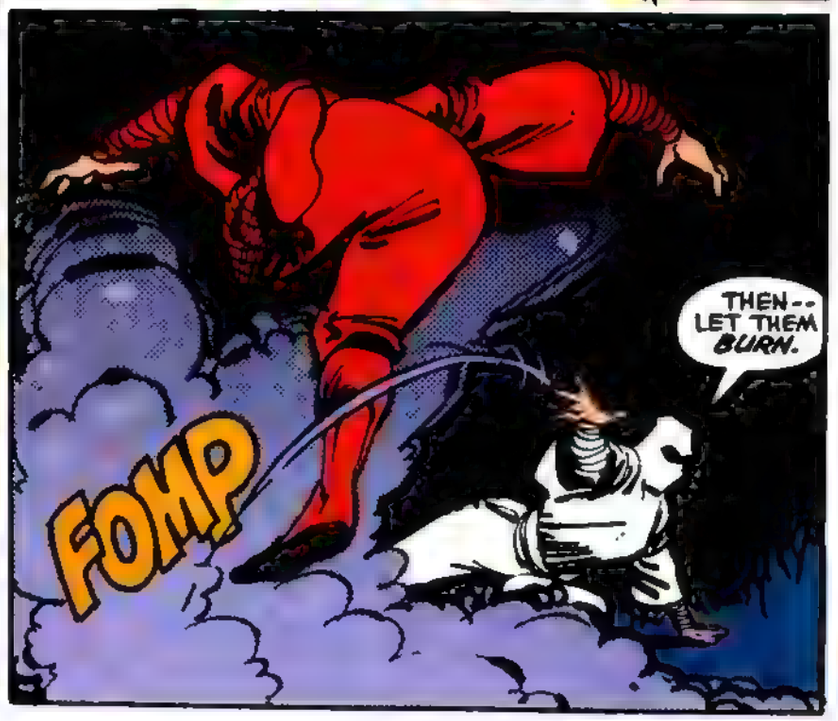

THE OINTMENTS ARE APPLIED.
BEGIN.
LET YOUR LIFE'S BLOOD FLOW TO HER. ELEKTRA MUST LIVE-- TO SERVE THE HAND.
AND SERVE US SHE SHALL. THOUGH SHE WAS DIFFICULT TO CONTROL--THOUGH SHE ABANDONED OUR CAUSE--
--THIS CEREMONY SHALL MAKE HER OURS. FOREVER.
NOW, MY BROTHERS. IT IS TIME.
EMPTY YOUR SOULS TO ELEKTRA...
YOUR BLOOD IS HERS...
YOUR LIVES-- YOUR FLESH-- HERS...
AH...
SHE IS CLOSE...

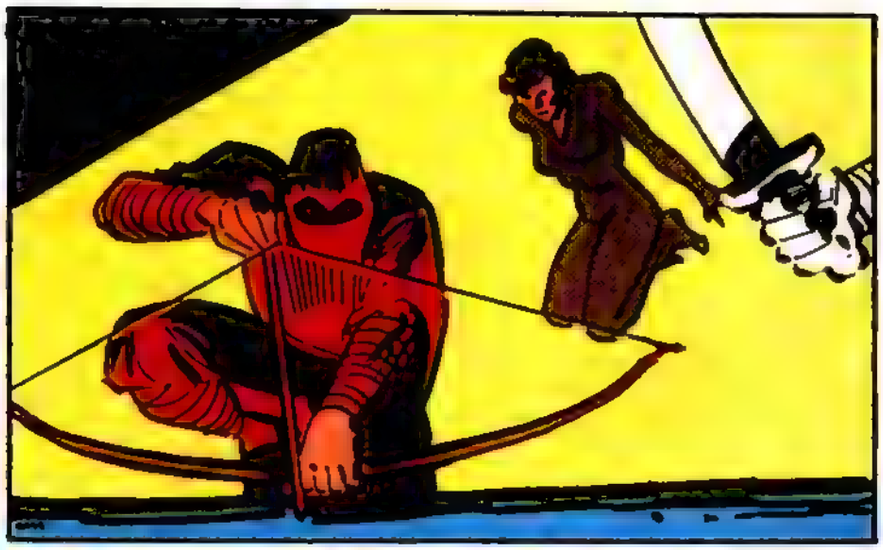
NO!
NOT NOW!

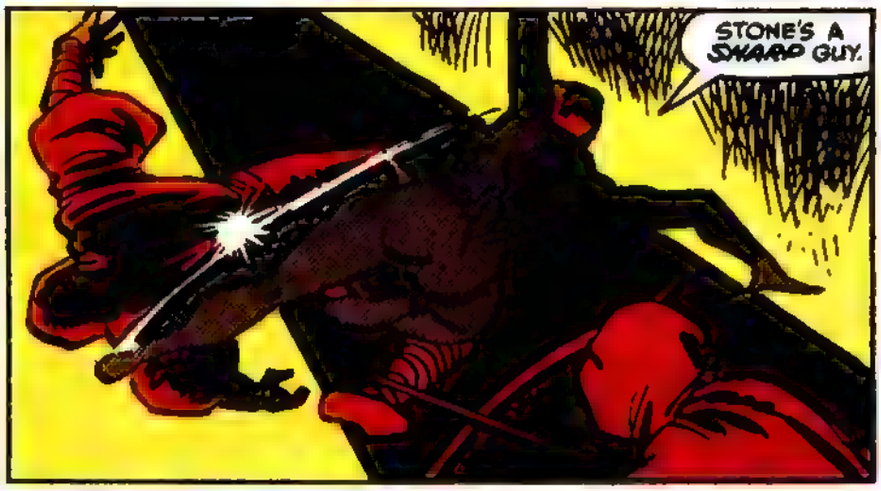

FOOLS!
WE ARE PREPARED. WE ARE MANY.

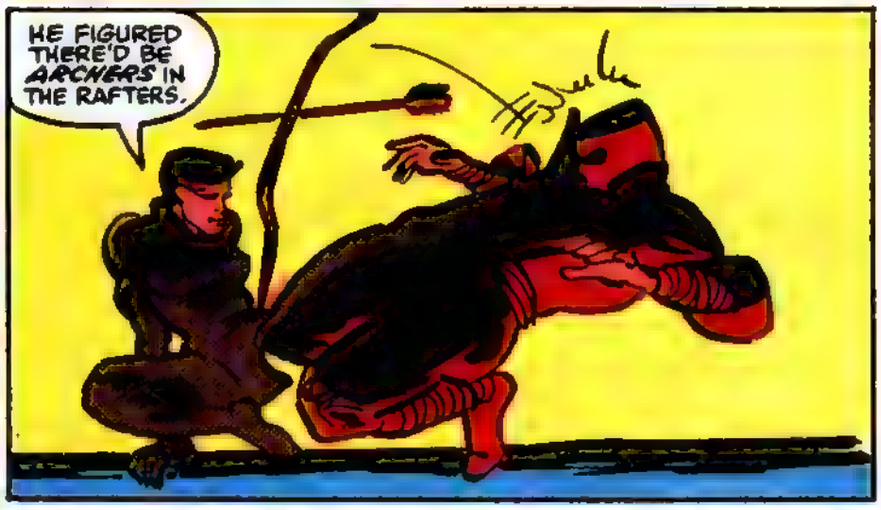
THEY SURE ARE.
JOINT'S CRAWLING WITH THEM.

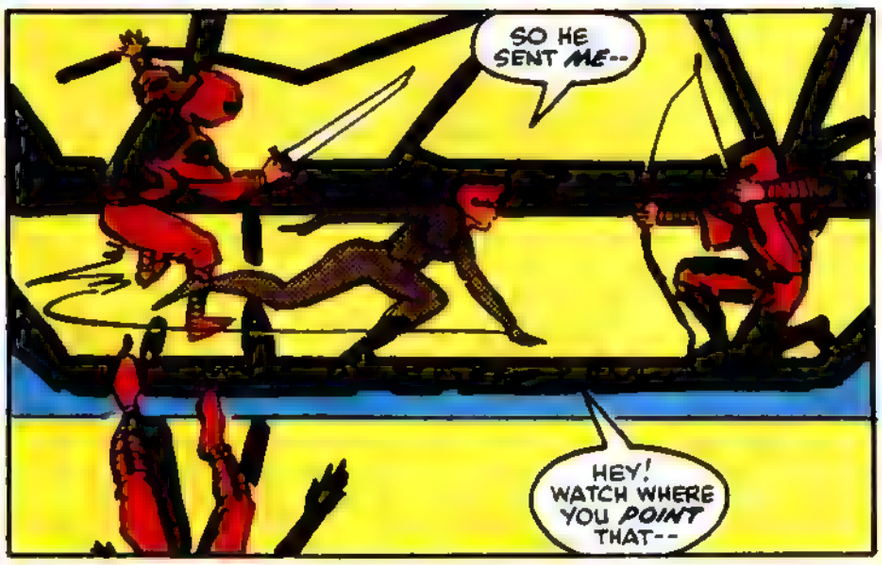

THEN-- LET THEM BURN.
FOMP

WHOOM
THAT WILL SLOW THEM...
...LONG ENOUGH...



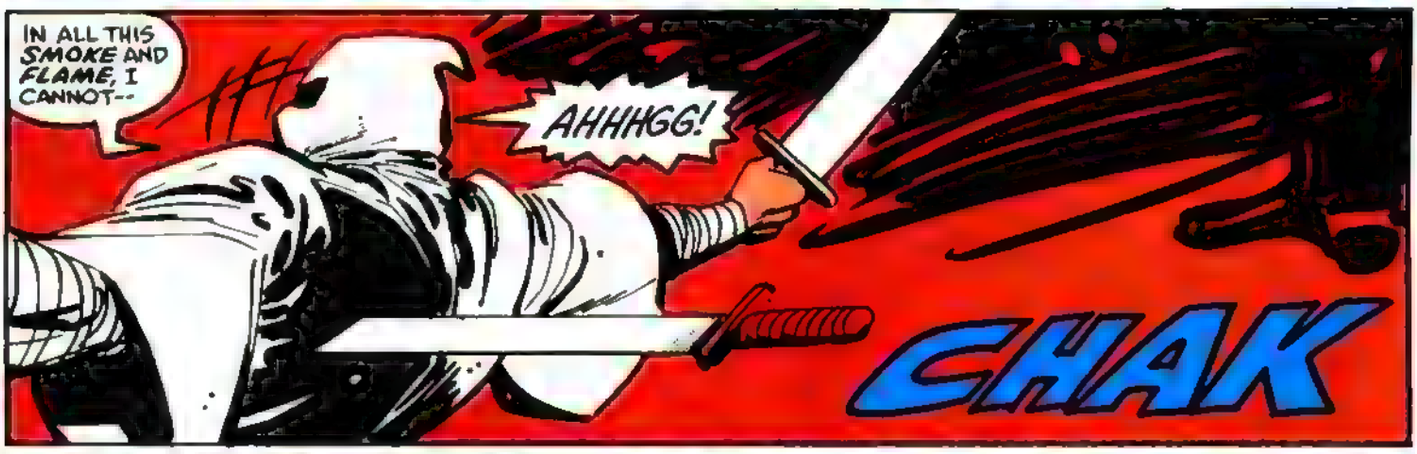

STONE'S A SWARD GUY.

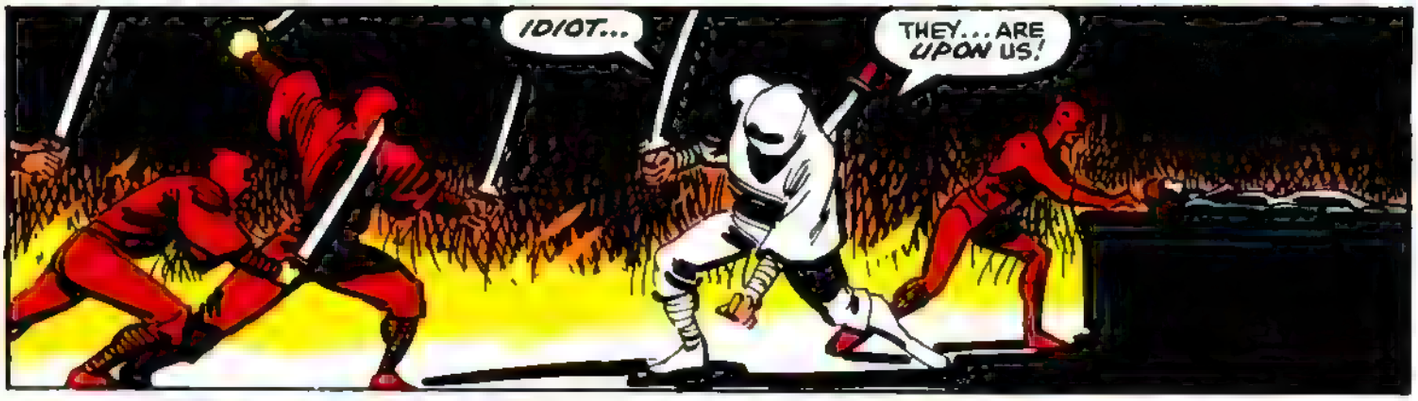

HE FIGURED THERE'D BE ARCHERS IN THE RAFTERS.

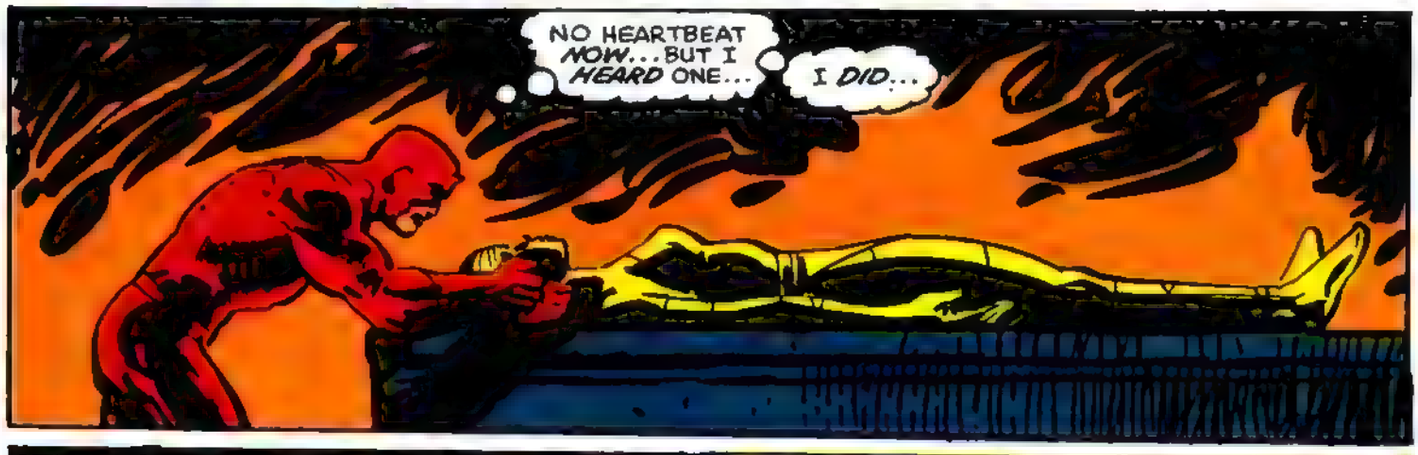

SO HE SENT ME--
HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU POINT THAT--

GUARD MY BACK, MURDOCK.
WHILE I DO... WHAT I MUST.
WHAT THE...
A HEARTBEAT...!

STONE-- I HEARD A HEART-BEAT...
MY BACK, MURDOCK.
I AM IMPERVIOUS-- BUT ONLY WHEN I AM AWARE OF AN ATTACK.


IN ALL THIS SMOKE AND FLAME, I CANNOT--
AHHHGG!
CHAK

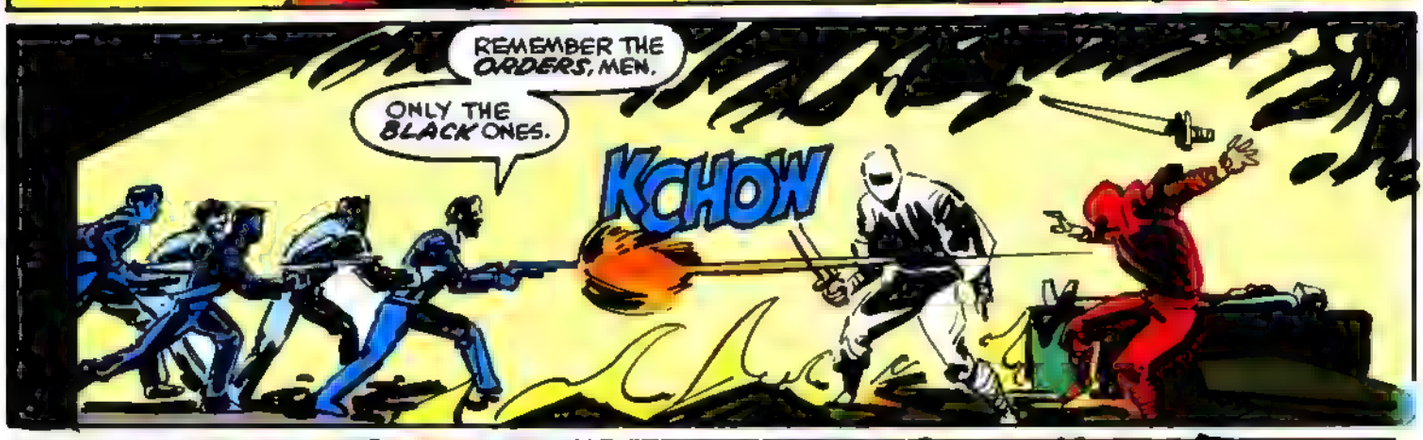

IDIOT...
THEY... ARE UPON US!


NO HEARTBEAT NOW... BUT I HEARD ONE...
I DID...

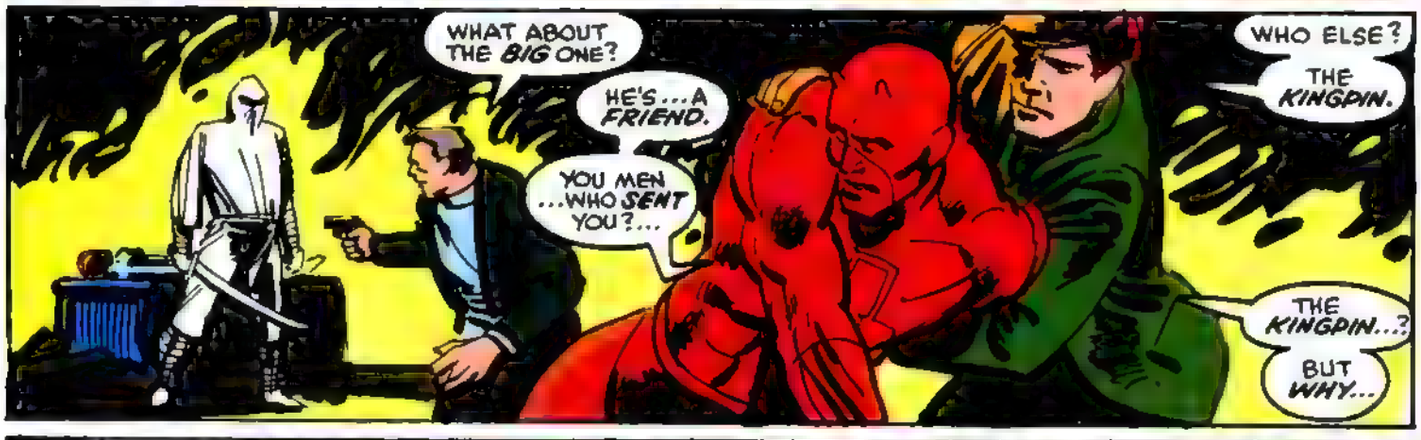
I LOVE YOU, ELEKTRA.
IF THERE'S ANY WAY TO BRING YOU BACK-- I'LL DO IT--
--EVEN IF IT KILLS ME!

YOUR FRIEND IS FALLEN, STONE.
SOON YOU SHALL FALL, AS WELL...
I COULDN'T DO IT, ELEKTRA.
JUST DON'T KNOW HOW...
I'M SORRY...

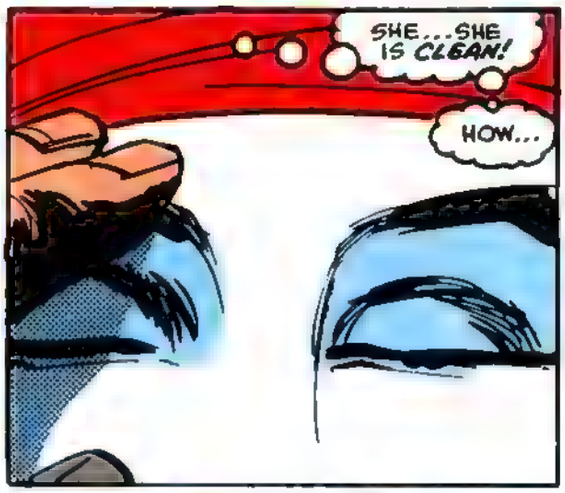
BRAKAB
RAKABRA
RAKAB

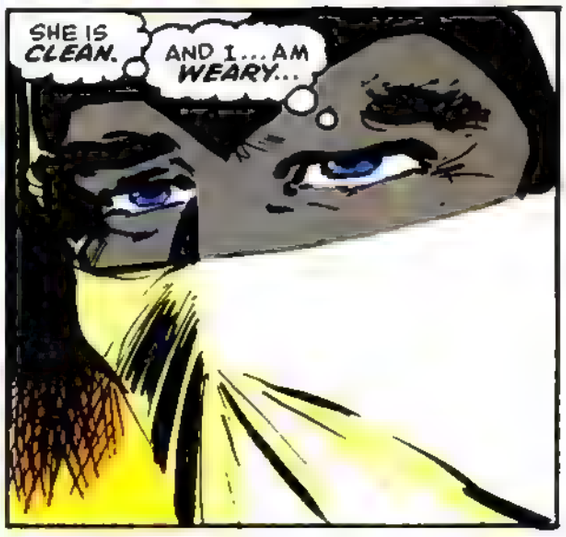

REMEMBER THE ORDERS, MEN.
ONLY THE BLACK ONES.
KCHOW

HERE'S THE WIDDER. HURT -- BUT ALIVE.
GET HER OUTTA HERE.
ZEKE -- TAKE CARE OF HORNHEAD.


WHAT ABOUT THE BIG ONE?
HE'S ... A FRIEND.
YOU MEN ... WHO SENT YOU? ...
WHO ELSE?
THE KINGPIN.
THE KINGPIN...?
BUT WHY...

NASTY CUT YA GOT THERE, PAL. LET'S --
HEY!
LEAVE ME.
OKAY.





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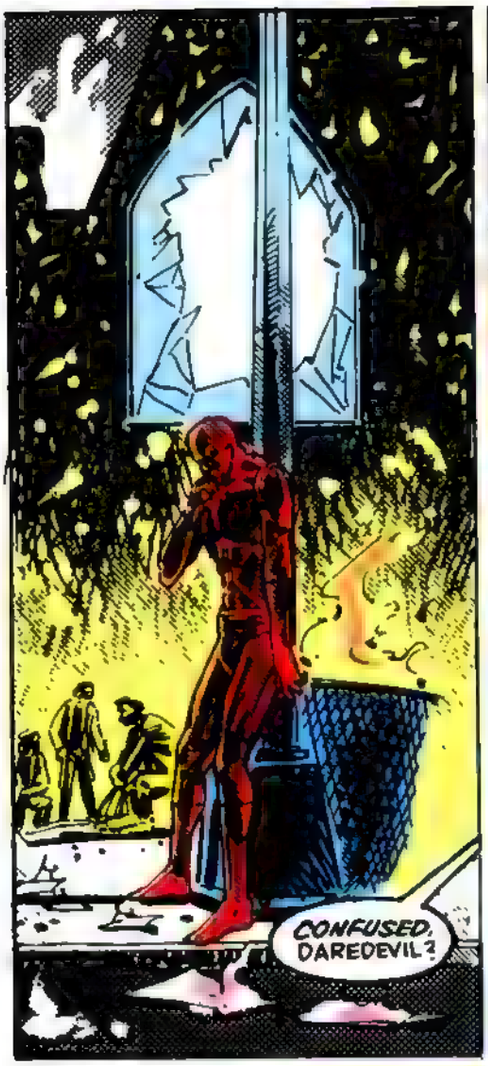
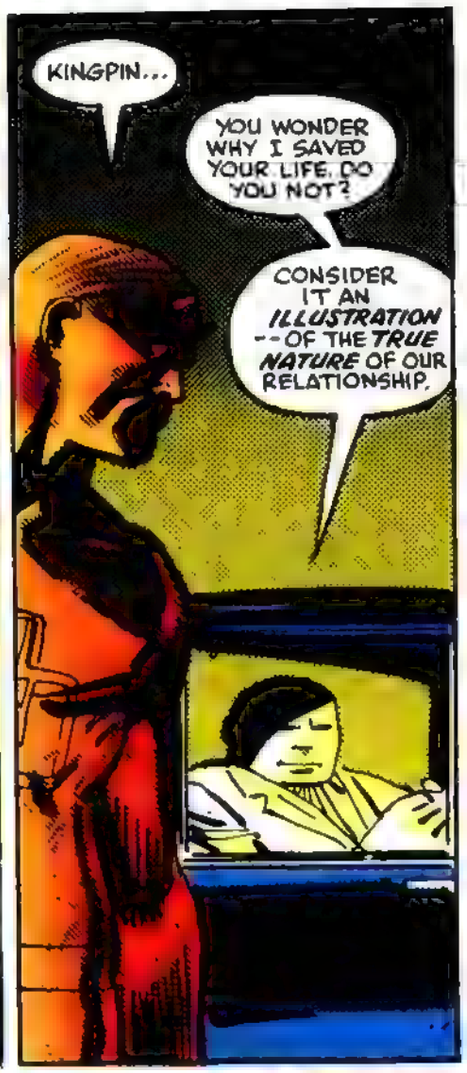

CONFUSED, DAREDEVIL?

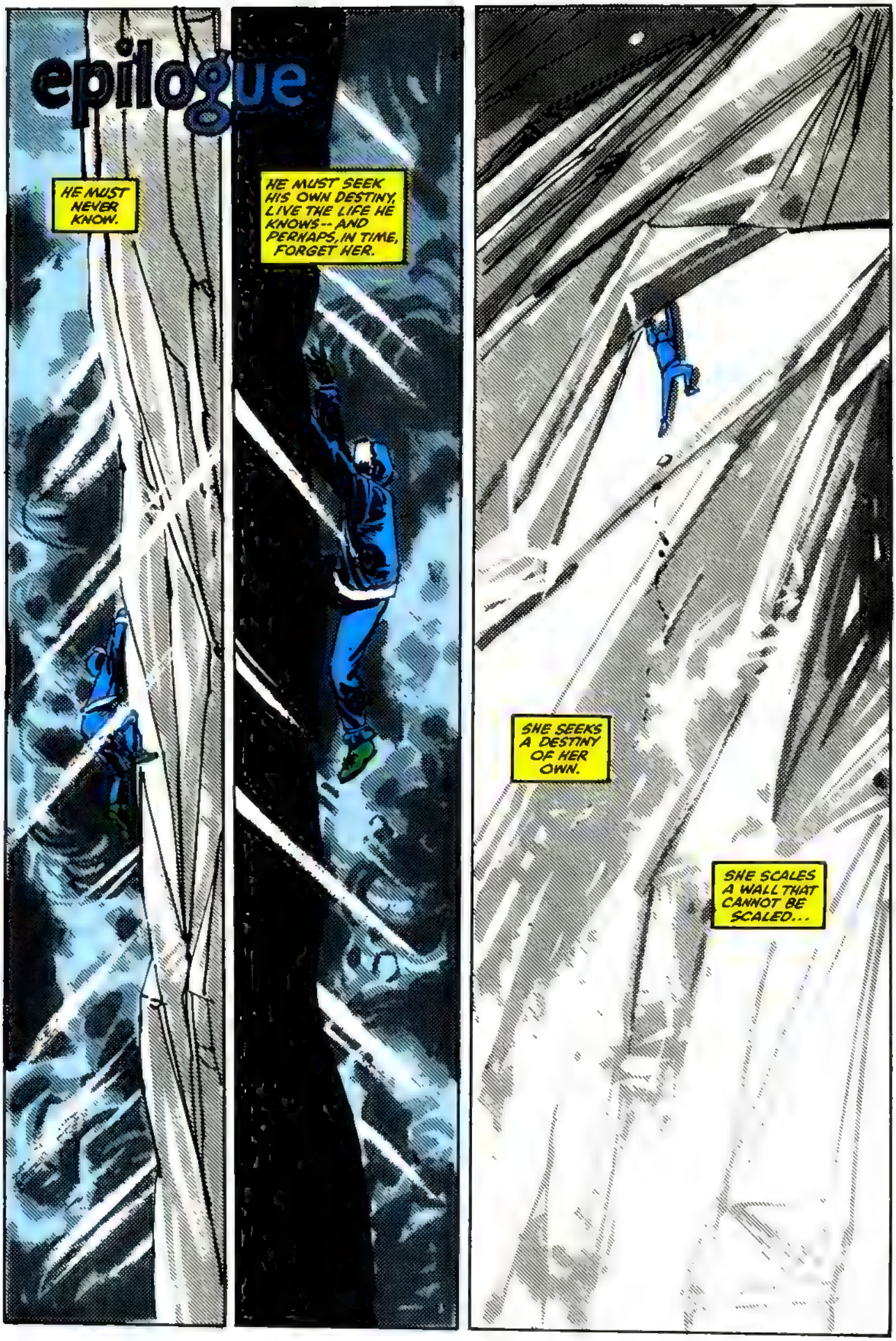

KINGPIN...
YOU WONDER WHY I SAVED YOUR LIFE. DO YOU NOT?
CONSIDER IT AN *ILLUSTRATION* --OF THE *TRUE NATURE* OF OUR RELATIONSHIP.

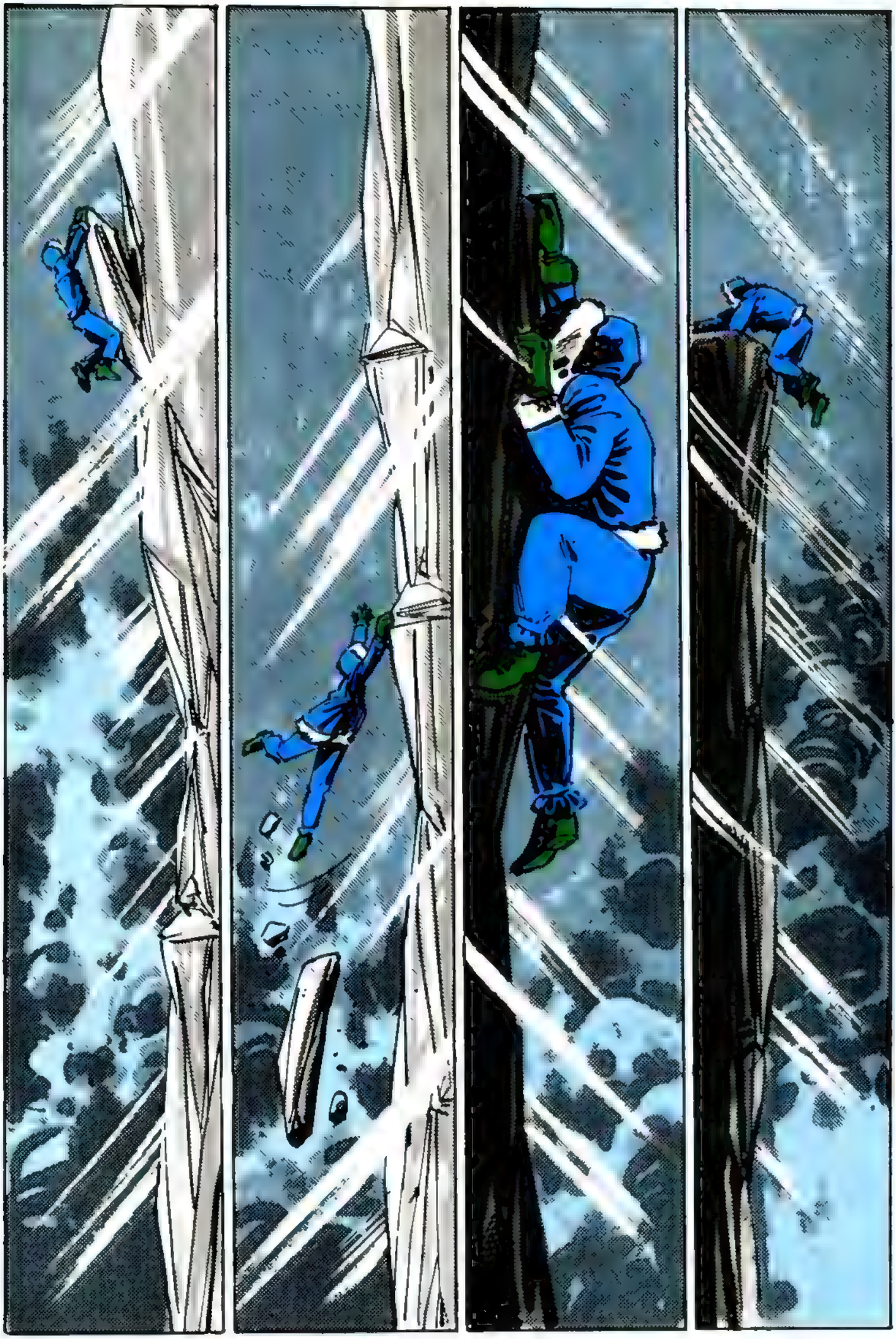
YOUR ATTACK ON *INJUN JOE* HAS SERVED TO QUELL A *MUTINY* IN MY ORGANIZATION. IT DEMONSTRATED TO THE MOBS THAT YOU ARE A COMMON ENEMY, AGAINST WHOM THEY NEED *PROTECTION*--
--PROTECTION THAT *I* PROVIDE.
CONSIDER ALSO, DAREDEVIL, THAT WHEN YOU NEEDED TO *FIND* THIS HIDEOUT, YOU DID NOT CONTACT THE *POLICE*.
YOU CAME TO *ME*.

WE *NEED* EACH OTHER, DAREDEVIL. WE ARE *PARTNERS*, AFTER A FASHION.
WE ARE THE *POWER* IN THIS CITY.

MATT--WHERE'S *STONE*?
I DON'T KNOW. HE...
HE'S STILL IN THE *CHURCH*--*WOUNDED*--
THE *FIRE*--

I DON'T THINK HE'S IN HERE, NATASHA.
ELEKTRA'S BODY IS GONE. HE MUST'VE TAKEN IT, AND...
I GUESS...HE JUST DID WHAT HE HAD TO DO...
WE ALL DO WHAT WE HAVE TO, MATT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT REMARK?
NOTHING.
LET'S GO HOME.


epilogue
HE MUST NEVER KNOW.
HE MUST SEEK HIS OWN DESTINY, LIVE THE LIFE HE KNOWS-- AND PERHAPS, IN TIME, FORGET HER.
SHE SEEKS A DESTINY OF HER OWN.
SHE SCALES A WALL THAT CANNOT BE SCALED...



FM
JANSON

WOLVERINE WAS JUST THE BEGINNING...

HERE'S WHERE SHE REALLY CUTS LOOSE!

ELEKTRA #1

*PETER MILLIGAN
*MIKE DEODATO JR.

FANS EVERYWHERE WILL BE GIVING IT A STAB SEPTEMBER 25TH

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